

The SPORTS PINK

55p

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RICKIE'S TEN FINEST MOMENTS FOR SAINTS

Tribute to departing Saints talisman: See pages 4-5



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BRAZIL 2014 FIFA WORLD CUP DRAW

GROUP	TEAMS
A	ALGERIA, ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, BELGIUM
B	BRAZIL, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, GERMANY
C	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
D	ENGLAND, GUATEMALA, IRAN, JAPAN
E	USA, GREECE, ICELAND, NETHERLANDS
F	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
G	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
H	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
I	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
J	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
K	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
L	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
M	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
N	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
O	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
P	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
Q	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
R	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
S	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
T	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
U	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
V	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
W	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
X	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
Y	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY
Z	CHINA, ECUADOR, HONDURAS, ITALY

FREE World Cup wallchart inside



DON'T PANIC

Watson: Lambert's Liverpool move is a GOOD deal for Saints

SHOCK MOVE: Rickie Lambert looks set to complete a move to Liverpool.

RICKIE Lambert's shock £5m move to Liverpool is a good deal for Saints.

That's the view of former Saints striker Gordon Watson, who says there is no need to panic over the loss of the fans' favourite, *writes DAN KERINS.*

With the England striker expected to undergo a medical at Anfield this weekend, the ex-Dell ace is upbeat about what the transfer means for Southampton.

Watson, pictured right, said: "He wanted to go and it's good money. He's

over 30 and it depends on who they bring in now to replace him. "He's going to his boyhood club and potentially to play Champions League football so you can understand why he wants to go."

"He's done brilliantly for Saints but he's 32 now, so it's a good deal to get that sort of money for him."

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SAINTS



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NON-LEAGUE



Latest news from the local scene
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FIND THE BALL: SEE PAGE 12 FOR A CHANCE TO WIN £32,000

Saints Spotlight

Saints job is a golden opportunity

SAINTS president Terry Paine has described the club's vacant manager's job as a "great opportunity" for someone.

Paine believes coaches will be queuing up for a shot at the position, which is up for grabs after Mauricio Pochettino walked out of the club.

The Argentine resigned on Tuesday before signing a five-year deal to take over at Tottenham.

Paine, pictured right, said it was obviously a disappointment to lose the highly-regarded 42-year-old, but he believes Saints are in a position where they can attract another manager of serious quality.

That is a view backed up by chairman Ralph Krueger's statement this week that the club had been "inundated" with applications from "high-calibre" candidates.

"It's a great opportunity for someone to come in and look after a club that is well established, has a great reputation and has a good squad," he said.

"We don't know who's going to come in and who's going to go, but there is a lot of quality there."

"I would imagine that coaches or managers are queuing up."

"Obviously, it's finding the right one that fits all the attributes you want at the club."

Paine said that there will be nothing

gained from bemoaning the loss of Pochettino.

Instead, he says supporters and people associated with the club must look forward to a continued bright future.

"We are disappointed with it, but that happens," he said. "Mauricio decided to move on, but you don't look back – you look forward."

"It's obviously disappointing to lose the manager's services after the impact that he had at the club, but that's the nature of the game today."

"I think we all have to understand when you are successful with a club like Southampton that the vultures do circle."

"At Southampton, we are in a situation where we have got so much talent that it's inevitable that other teams are going to come and try to poach people."

"Obviously, he moves on and the club moves on, and will now be looking for a new manager."

"We know what Southampton is all about, with an academy that is known for bringing youngsters through, and I'm sure they will be looking for a manager who has got that in his DNA as well, so that everyone's on the same wavelength."

Paine added: "Everyone was amazed when he was appointed originally, because Nigel Adkins had done such a good job."

"But the club felt Mauricio could take it to another level, which, obviously, he has done. "Now we need someone who can stabilise the club."

"I think where we are now is about where we should be. From that point of view, I think it's a case of being a little bit cautious and not getting ahead of ourselves, thinking we are going to finish in the top four."

RALPH KRUEGER

GONE:
Mauricio
Pochettino.



Benali: Saints must move on from Poch exit quickly

Gordon Simpson

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SPORTS REPORTER

Saints legend Francis Benali hopes the appointment of a new manager will help settle the dressing room this summer.

The club are on the lookout for a new boss, following the departure this week of Mauricio Pochettino to Tottenham.

Saints are also expected to lose striker Rickie Lambert to Liverpool this weekend, while stars such as Adam Lallana, Luke Shaw and Dejan Lovren could all follow them out the door in the coming months.

Benali, right, does not want Saints to rush into appointing a new boss, but he says it would be better to have one sooner rather than later.

"There's obviously that disappointment that he [Pochettino] has chosen to leave, because he did a very good job while he was here," said the club's former left-back.

"But I think, now that he's gone, we have to move on."

"The club's efforts will be fully focused on bringing in his successor, and it's crucial to get that appointment right,

and sooner rather than later ideally – one, to enable them to start working towards next season and also to settle the dressing room a little bit.

"It's never ideal when you're without a manager, especially when there is a lot of speculation around a lot of players at this time as well. Naming a successor will be a big bonus to hopefully securing players the club want to bring in and also keep."

Benali added: "They're obviously working very hard towards bringing the new man in, and it's one they quite obviously want to get right, and not rush into it."

There has already been plenty of interest in the Saints job, and Benali believes it will be an extremely enticing proposition.

"From what we've heard, it's quite obvious that managers will be

falling over themselves to come and take the job here," he said.

"It will be a very attractive position for whoever gets the job."

Whoever is chosen, Benali hopes that people will back him and give him time to prove himself.

"I knew very little, if anything, about Pochettino before he came, and we know how successful he was," he said.

"So it would be wrong for me or anybody else to jump to conclusions about anybody linked to it."

"I just would want it to be a person who could continue the tradition of how our sides like to play attractive football."

"I was a fan of the pressing game and intensity Pochettino brought to the club, and to mix that with the ability, talent and philosophy of football at the club as well is a good mixture."

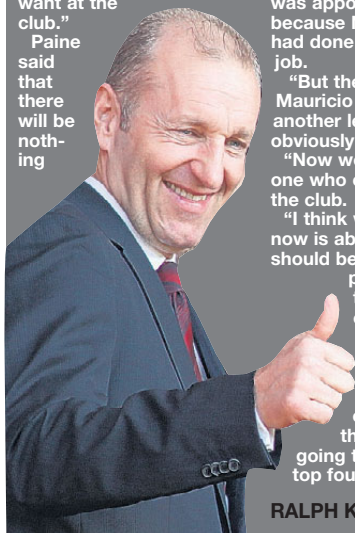
"Whoever comes in, I would like to see that continue, and hopefully it'll be someone who can take the club on to bigger and better things."

Benali added: "It's very much about looking forward. People do come and go, and it won't be the first or the last time."

"But the club's never stopped evolving, or continuing from day-to-day in the past, and that won't happen now."

"Hopefully they can continue to build."

"Anybody we have who doesn't want to be at the club for any reason, I would rather they would not be here."



MORE SAINTS NEWS ONLINE: WWW.DAILYECHO.CO.UK

Saints Spotlight

RICKIE'S MOVE IS GOOD FOR SAINTS

RICKIE Lambert's shock £5m move to Liverpool is a good deal for Saints.

That's the view of former Saints striker Gordon Watson, who says there is no need to panic over the loss of the fans' favourite, *writes DAN KERINS.*

With the England striker expected to undergo a medical at Anfield this weekend, the ex-Dell ace is upbeat about what the transfer means for Southampton.

He said: "He wanted to go and it's good money. He's over 30 and it depends on who they bring in now to replace him.

"He's going to his boyhood club and potentially to play Champions League football so you can understand why he wants to go.

"He's done brilliantly for Saints but he's 32 now, so it's a good deal to get that sort of money for him."

HUGE IMPACT

Lambert has had a huge impact in his five years at St Mary's, but despite his impressive goal scoring record, supporters should be more concerned about the impact of losing players like Adam Lallana, says Watson.

"He's going to be the first of a few to go but I'm more worried about losing other players than him – and that's no disrespect to Rickie Lambert, I think he's done wonderfully over the years for Saints.

"He's scored a lot of goals and got them back into the Premier League and has been absolutely brilliant for them."

The key now for Watson is what the club does to fill the void left by the former Bristol Rovers striker.

"They have got to replace him, and I think they'll go English again," he said.

"Lambert proves you don't have to look in the Premier League for quality, but obviously it depends on what other clubs want for their players."

Although Saints look at risk of losing a number of key first team players, Watson is relaxed and says there is no need for screaming or panic. "It's



ON THE MOVE: Rickie Lambert looks set to complete a move to Liverpool this weekend.

a fresh slate for Saints, the start of something new, but it is every year," he said.

"They started in division three with Pardew, then Adkins came in and started again and got them promoted, then in the Championship they started again and then in the Premier League, Pochettino kept them up and then they started again this season.

"It's not a worry – it just depends on who they bring in as manager now.

"The first signing they need to make now is the manager. Get that right and then they can start to look ahead.

"They do need to get it sorted in the next few weeks though.

"I don't think there's any need for scaremongering.

"Every season is a new start and

this is just the same again."

With just the injured Rodriguez and 18-year-old Sam Gallagher, pictured left, on the books, there is not a lot of firepower left in the Southampton squad – and Watson thinks it unlikely Dani Osvaldo will be coming back.

"There's good money there so they can bring in replacements and they will need a new striker to replace Lambert.

Koeman leads the race to be next Saints boss... with the bookies

DUTCH LEGEND Ronald Koeman has replaced Murat Yakin as the bookies' favourite to replace Mauricio Pochettino at Saints.

Koeman, pictured below, replaced Murat Yakin as the frontrunner with the odds makers after it was revealed that he is open to the prospect of joining Saints when he leaves Feyenoord this summer.

The former Barcelona and Holland star has also managed Ajax, Valencia and Benfica and is the odds-on favourite with Betfair (4/6), BetVictor (10/11), William Hill (4/6) and Betway (7/1.0)

Yakin is still as low as 5/1 with several bookies after his name was put in the frame shortly after Pochettino's move to White Hart Lane was confirmed on Wednesday.



The former Switzerland international was put forward as a possible candidate as he left FC Basel two weeks ago.

Odds have also been compiled on several managers sacked by Premier League clubs this year.

Michael Laudrup (5/1 Paddy Power), David Moyes (6/1 Ladbrokes), Chris Hughton (14/1 Betfair) and Malky Mackay (22/1 Sky Bet) would not be the most popular choices but the bookies have them down as contenders, nevertheless.

Former Brighton manager Oscar Garcia has been sounded out by Saints but is out at 25/1 with Ladbrokes.

Odds have also been quoted for a few former Saints players: Dan Petrescu (33/1), Uwe Rosler (40/1) and even the recently sacked academy coach Jason Dodd (50/1).

Ex-Saints managers Alan Pardew (Coral) and Glenn Hoddle (Paddy Power) are also outsiders.

Meanwhile, two Championship managers are both priced at 14/1: AFC Bournemouth's Eddie Howe (Betway) and Derby County's Steve McClaren (Paddy Power).

Saints Spotlight



OFF THE MARK: Rickie Lambert fires in the first goal of his Saints career.



DERBY DELIGHT: Lambert celebrates netting against Pompey in 2010.



HAT-TRICK: Lambert smashes home a penalty on his way to his first treble for Saints, against MK Dons in 2010.

Making of a

RICKIE Lambert is poised to bring his Saints career to a close this weekend – with a £4million move to Liverpool almost complete.

The likeable scouser wrote himself into Saints history by netting more than 100 goals in the club's passage from League 1 to the top half of the Premier League – earning an England call-up and a trip to this summer's World Cup in the process.

Here, the *SPORTS PINK* takes a look at the ten of the best moments from Lambert's time at St Mary's

**August 11, 2009
Saints 2 Northampton 0
Carling Cup**

It took just 29 minutes of his Saints career for Lambert to begin paying back the £1m spent on him by the club. The striker burst into the box to bundle in a Lloyd James cross and set Alan Pardew's men on the way to a comfortable first-round victory.

**February 13, 2010
Saints 1 Pompey 4
FA Cup**

One of Lambert's most memorable Saints goals, even if it proved to be in vain. Trailing their bitter rivals 1-0, Dan Harding whipped in a free-kick for Saints and Lambert rose highest to head home and send St Mary's wild, before Pompey ran riot in the last 15 minutes.

**March 20, 2010
MK Dons 0 Saints 3
League 1**

The striker scored his first ever Saints hat-trick, as he broke through the 30-goal barrier for the season, including his opening-day effort for his former club Bristol Rovers. After heading into an empty net, Lambert added a penalty and then a wonder goal, scoring with a 40-yard half-volley that flew over the keeper's head.

**March 28, 2010
Carlisle 1 Saints 4
Johnstone's Paint Trophy**

Carlisle keeper Adam Collin actually got fingertips to a Lambert penalty – a feat in itself – but could do nothing to keep the powerful strike, hit high to his left, out. Lambert's Wembley spot-kick, after a blatant handball, put Saints 1-0 up and sent them on their way to a comfortable win and a rare piece of silverware.

**May 2, 2011
Plymouth 1 Saints 3
League 1**

Lambert broke through the 20-goal barrier for the season and helped effectively ensure Saints' place in the Championship. After heading them in front right on half-time, he made it 3-0 from the penalty spot just before the hour mark.

**August 16, 2011
Ipswich 2 Saints 5
The Championship**

Lambert scored his first ever Championship

WHAT A MOMENT: Rickie Lambert celebrates netting on his England debut and, below, on the way to scoring the goals at Crystal Palace that all but confirmed Saints' return to the Premier League.



goals to power Saints into an early 2-0 lead. A tremendous one-two with Adam Lallana set him free for the first before Lallana set him free again minutes later to finish sublimely into the far corner.

brink of the Premier League. He headed Saints in front shortly before half-time, then completed the win by dropping a shoulder to go past the Palace backline and finish left-footed into the far corner for his 30th – and one of his best – of the season.

**April 9, 2012
Crystal Palace 0 Saints 2
The Championship**

Lambert struck twice as Saints moved to the

**August 19, 2012
Manchester City 3 Saints 2
Premier League**

THE PINK AND DAILY ECHO: BEST FOR SAINTS NEWS

Saints Spotlight

Saints hero

Lambert's ten finest Saints moments



Surprisingly dropped by Nigel Adkins, Lambert responded to the snub by scoring within minutes of coming off the bench, striking a beautiful right-foot shot into the bottom corner from the edge of the area for his first ever top-flight goal. The strike had made it 1-1 on a dramatic afternoon against the Premier League champions.

February 24, 2013

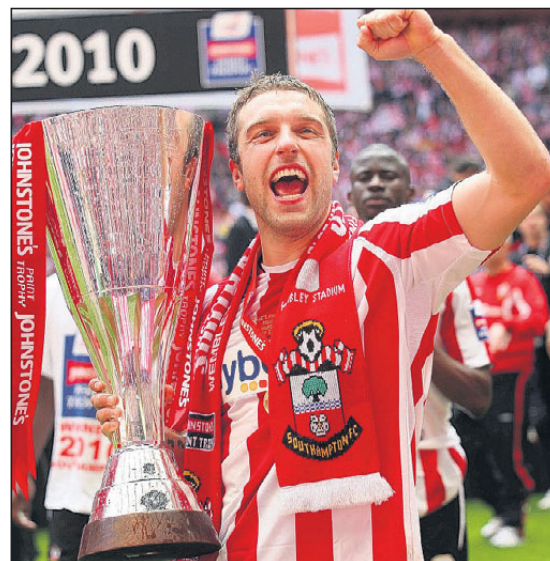
Newcastle 4 Saints 2 Premier League

The century arrives. Lambert drilled home a low shot from Adam Lallana's pass to make it 2-2 early in the second half, with his 100th goal fittingly coming against Alan Pardew, the man who signed him for the club.

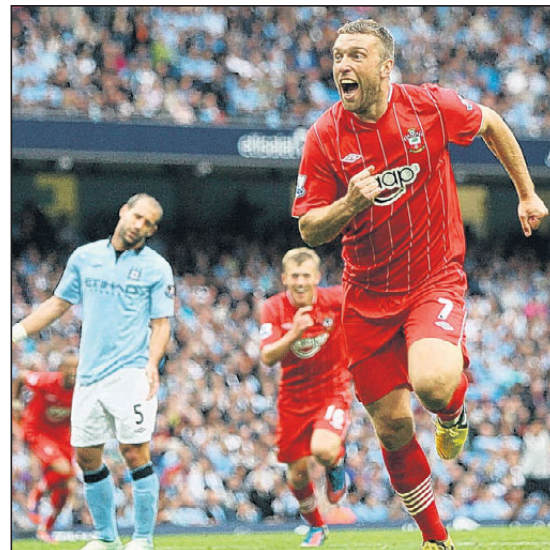
August 14, 2013
England 3 Scotland 2

International friendly

Although not technically a magic moment for Saints, Lambert scoring the winner on his England debut against old rivals Scotland has to make it onto any list of his achievements. A wonderful moment that showed he can cut it as an international footballer and how far he had come since his League 1 days. Lambert's performances for the Three Lions would book him a spot at this summer's World Cup.



WEMBLEY WONDER: Rickie Lambert celebrates the JPT win at Wembley.



OFF AND RUNNING: Lambert scores his first Premier League goal.



MILESTONE: Lambert celebrates his 100th goal for Saints.

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Saints Spotlight



SAINTS fans have been reacting to the departure of Mauricio Pochettino on the Echo website dailyecho.co.uk. Log on now to join in the debates ...

Golden_Salamander says... This would not have happened with Nicola (Cortese) in charge. [I think] It just shows what a clown Ralph (Krueger) is and how he is clearly out of his depth running a club this size. I hope he has put a no poaching of player clause into the agreement (with Pochettino) but with Ralph in charge he probably hasn't even thought about it.

City Saint says... There's always a bigger fish/deeper pockets out there. If he does well at spurs, he'll be snapped up by Man U; if he does well there he'll end up at Real Madrid, and on and on. Thanks for a great season, MoPo. Please don't take Lallana and Shaw with you though! Most seriously: at least this happened now, and we have a good pick of management talent out there with a few weeks to negotiate. No player deals will get done of the calibre we want until after the World Cup. So thanks to Krueger for the breathing space created by moving quickly once it became almost inevitable

Costa Baz says... He was Cortese's appointment and this was always on the cards, once he came out with that statement of not being here if Cortese left. What sticks in the throat is the duplicitous way he has harped on about contract talks in the summer, indicating that it wouldn't be much of a fight to get him to stay and his constantly reminding us of the year he still had on his contract. I will still wait and see what the new manager is given, in way of transfer funds and support in keeping the key players, but for me, MP has behaved shamefully.

deepheat says... Mauricio Pochettino inherited a team put together by other managers and the very best of our academy players. I don't think MP will ever get the opportunity again to manage a talented team like Saints had this season and I can't imagine another Saints manager paying £15m for Osvaldo and showing no interest for winning the FA Cup because he didn't want to play in the Europa cup. We are better to get things sorted out now rather than wait for players to leave us high and dry come the January transfer window which is what would have happened if MP had stayed and Saints were struggling. OK so we may not finish in the top half if we lose our star players but if we get a well respected manager and invest in new players (doesn't have to be British) we can still have a good season and build for the long term unlike Spuds who will have to do this all again when MoPo moves on to another project after 1 season.. What about Paul Clement he is available. An English football coach currently working at Spanish La Liga club Real Madrid, assisting head coach Carlo Ancelotti. Clement has also previously worked for Ancelotti at Chelsea and Paris Saint-Germain.

smuggins says... Get De Boer that would really be one in the eye for the majority of Spurs fans who wanted him not Poch.

Continued on opposite page

POCH SAINTS REIGN

MAURICIO Pochettino was in charge of Saints for 60 games before he joined Tottenham this week.

His spell at St Mary's will be remembered as a successful one by fans, even if many of them feel a certain animosity towards him after he turned his back on the club by handing in his resignation, writes **PETER HOWARD**.

The Argentine, pictured below, led Saints to Premier League survival after taking the job from Nigel Adkins midway through the 2012/13 term and in his first full season achieved the highest ever points tally Southampton have ever accumulated – finishing eighth on 56 points.

Here, the *Sports Pink*, in no particular order, looks at his top ten games at the Saints helm.

February 9, 2013
Saints 3 (Puncheon 7, S Davis 22, Barry og 48) Manchester City 1 (Dzeko 39)
IN POCHETTINO'S fourth game in charge he pulled off what Saints had threatened to do on the opening day of the season at the Etihad and beat the defending Premier League champions.

City arrived with only two defeats in 25 league games and boasting the best away defensive record in the top flight.

But Jason Puncheon opened the scoring after Jay Rodriguez's shot was saved by Joe Hart.

Steven Davis made it 2-0 after Hart had made a hash of Rickie Lambert's shot.

It was only Davis's second goal of the season, and the first goal had come against City as well.

Edin Dzeko replied on the break but City's misery was complete when Gareth Barry inexplicably passed into his own net.

City boss Roberto Mancini was allegedly so disgusted with his side's performance he didn't even bother going into their dressing room afterwards.

Poch's view: "Victory only comes if you believe you can get the victory."

"The most important thing here at Southampton is that everybody believes in our victories."

"We believed we could win and that's the way we should go."

"We are all very happy – all the staff and everybody integrated into this club."

"I want to thank the supporters for the great support they gave."

"The stadium was vibrating. It (the result) has a great value. The team deserved its victory."

"I'm very proud and very happy for the team, who deserved the victory."

Why top ten?

There was still a great amount of discomfort from fans about the departure of Nigel



FINISHING TOUCH: Jay Rodriguez sets the seal on the 3-1 victory over Liverpool on March 16, 2013.



NET GAIN: Steven Davis, centre, wheels away to celebrate his goal against Manchester City in February 2013.



WINNER: Rickie Lambert, left, curls in a free kick to earn Saints victory against Chelsea on March 30, 2013.

Adkins, but this victory went a long way to start winning the hearts of the St Mary's faithful for the new man. It was also a result that seemed to have been brewing since the beginning of the campaign. Saints narrowly lost to City on the opening day and then suffered two heartbreaking defeats to Manchester United. So to finally take a big scalp ignited belief that avoiding

relegation was very viable.

March 16, 2013

Saints 3 (Schneiderlin 6, Lambert 33, Rodriguez 80) Liverpool 1 (Coutinho 45)
Saints hadn't won since the City game three games earlier.

Ahead of welcoming Liverpool and then Chelsea to St Mary's in consecutive weeks it would have been hard to see where the next win might come from – especially after coming off the back of a miserable defeat to Harry Redknapp's struggling QPR at home the week before. But Saints stormed to a superb win. Jay Rodriguez nodded down for Morgan Schneiderlin to steer in a shot before Rickie Lambert's deflected free-kick doubled the advantage. Philippe Coutinho – who played under

Pochettino at Espanyol in 2011/12 and a Saints target a few weeks earlier – replied on the stroke of half-time.

Rodriguez completed a home win when he side-footed in after his initial shot was saved by Brad Jones.

It was only Saints' second win in eight games but moved them seven points clear above the relegation zone.

It was to prove Liverpool's only loss in their last 14 games of the season.

Poch's view: "I was really angry when I went into the dressing room at half-time. It (Liverpool's goal) changed what I said to my players."

"We are an attack-minded team and always want to push forward and it's not such a big deal if we concede a goal when we are pressing high to get a goal

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Saints Spotlight

HAD ITS MOMENTS



CELEBRATION: Adam Lallana after netting against Reading in April, 2013.

for ourselves as well.

"But to concede a goal when there are ten of players in my own area, in my own box, and concede a goal like that I can never tolerate that.

"That is my job and that's what we still need to improve."

Why top ten?

It would have felt for many at half-time that Saints would let the lead slip. On several occasions that season Saints had scored first only to be pegged back or defeated. It had happened just two weeks' earlier when they took a 1-0 lead at Newcastle before Alan Pardew's side came back to win 4-2. But this was different and Saints and Pochettino proved that they were able to hold on to a narrow lead without bottling it, to

add to that it was a big moment for Saints to beat the Merseysiders.

March 30, 2013
Saints 2 (Rodriguez 23, Lambert 35)
Chelsea 1 (Terry 33)

This match completed an incredible hat-trick of high-profile scalps.

After beating defending champs Manchester City and Liverpool, Saints added European champions Chelsea to their list of conquests.

Jay Rodriguez, who was beginning to look a new player under Pochettino, opened the scoring after good work by Rickie Lambert and Steve Davis.

John Terry headed a 33rd-minute equaliser from a corner, but a sublime 25-yard free-kick by Lambert sentenced Chelsea to a third straight away league defeat.

Saints were a season's best 13th after establishing a four-point safety cushion from the relegation places.

Poch's view: Asked about the impact he has had on the squad, the boss replied: "More than me, it's the players that have performed well.

"We also played other good games but we weren't able to get the victories from them.

"In football you can't just deserve results, you have to work for them and if we analyse them and if we analyse this game we deserved to win."

"In front of us was Chelsea, the champions of Europe, and it's completely normal that in the second half Chelsea were looking to get the win.

"In the overall analysis of the game we

deserved the win and had good chances to get a better result.

"I am really happy with the performance of my players and especially the players that don't normally get to play as much.

"It's important to highlight how well they played."

Why top ten?

Chelsea had defeated Saints 5-1 in the FA Cup third round in January. They had then drawn 2-2 with the Blues at Stamford Bridge in Nigel Adkins' last game in charge, thanks to a swashbuckling half-volley by Jason Puncheon.

The massive wins over Liverpool, City and then this one had marked a huge change in confidence from the squad. To hold on to a tight lead and to put daylight between themselves and the relegation zone, as well as getting revenge for the 5-1 thrashing represented a change of mentality from a side battling relegation to one being steered by Pochettino's confident management to safety. The Argentine's style was starting to ooze from the team.

April 6, 2013

Reading 0 Saints 2 (Rodriguez 34, Lallana 72)

Nigel Adkins was pushed further towards relegation after his former club inflicted a 2-0 defeat on Reading at The Madejski.

In what was only Adkins' second game in charge of the Royals after replacing the sacked Brian McDermott, it was one of his signings – Jay Rodriguez – who gave the visitors a first half lead. Saints' dominance brought further reward when Adam Lallana slotted the second past Adam Federici for his 50th senior goal for the club. It was Saints' third successive Premier League win for the first time since 2003, while Reading were losing for the seventh league game running.

Poch's view: "We played a very good game but there is still a lot of points to be won ahead and our goal is just the next game against West Ham. "What's important is that we won and we've got 37 points. "I don't really analyse. The media analyses what happens on the pitch. "I'm a pretty relaxed person. I like to work with my players on the training pitch. "The team has been playing well and I'm proud of what the players are doing.

"The club has brought me in to do a job and I'm doing it well so I'm just pleased overall. "I have been managing the team for ten games now and I have never spoken about any goals at the end of the season, only the next goal, the next objective."

Why top ten?

This game had so many different contexts. It pitched Nigel Adkins against his successor Mauricio Pochettino. It may not have been a level playing field with Reading on a dreadful run of results with relegation looming while Saints were pulling clear of the drop zone. This win all but secured their survival and it was a great advert for the style of play Pochettino was installing into a team that Adkins had moulded from League One outfit to a Premier League one. It was also Saints' last win of the 2012/13 campaign.

Fans Focus

TGodSFC says... Rafa, De Boer or Yakin!! Get it done. For Poch this will be the biggest mistake of his career. Spurs don't want him, but if he wants to go so bad, so long, Don't think he is as good as he thinks he is

Sutton Saint says... Are we surprised? The important thing now is to find the right replacement so let's go forward rather than look at the grim side of things. Lennon has only managed a 'championship' side in Scotland, Raffa would upset us with constant changes, McClaren is old hat, McKay was not a success at Cardiff, so...we have to look abroad again. They must have the quality football philosophy we have enjoyed over the last couple of years. As long as the money is there then we can certainly find more gems like Jose and Morgan. Never has the summer been so important for St Mary's.

Boston Saint says... I don't understand the anger towards the board and RK and KL in particular – it was Poch's choice to go... He is an overrated manager who never showed any loyalty to the club (threatening to quit last summer as well)... He inherited an incredibly talented team and only made one worthy addition, being Lovren...He claimed we deserved to win every single game (in Spanish of course) and the way he treated the FA cup this year was disgusting. Personally, I'm not sorry to see him go and in any case, his departure was his own choice...He'll fail at Spurs for sure.

Iewisv says... Personally I can't understand why anyone would take the Spurs job over Southampton. For me it's the most boring job in football. They'll never quite achieve what they think they should be achieving so will always be slightly disappointed. I'm from Liverpool but live here in Southampton & the set-up, infrastructure & culture here at Southampton is superb. There is something to build on here & it's only going to grow & develop. I don't think the loss of the manager will effect that as the manager is just 1 element in what you're doing here, and not the biggest one. What is there to build at spurs? What would they class as their objective or goal? Will they ever get it & will their aim be enough for their fans anyway. Southampton are respected & it's exciting times to be involved with Southampton, either as a supporter or staff. Can't understand why anyone would chose spurs over it. How dull. I how you finish above them next season & I think there's a good chance you will. (Please don't beat Liverpool again though!)

Galapagos Saint says... Out of all the names mentioned...Poyet would get my vote. It was our young hungry talented players that made Poch look good, not the other way round. He simply carried on the good work done by Adkins. Whereas what Poyet did with the Mackems is nothing short of genius. He showed tactical brilliance to win at Chelsea, United and City (2-1 up before Mannonero error) and brilliant morale boosting man-management to salvage the Di Canio mess (bottom at Christmas and seven points adrift with six games to go) and reach the League Cup final. He is of a similar mould to Poch...young enthusiastic ex-international south american tracksuit manager who really mucks in and connects with the players forming a tight-knit fearless team. But with the added bonus of speaking english, better connection with the fans, familiar with the South Coast etc.

Continued on page 8

READ THE EXCLUSIVE TERRY PAINE COLUMN ON PAGE 11

Saints Spotlight

Fans Focus

From page 7

redandy10 says... DeBoer WON'T come here. He's got Champions League football to look forward to, he isn't leaving Ajax. With Moyes there is a possibility, if we lose some players it will be seen as a bit of a challenge. Considering he's looking for a bit of redemption it might appeal to him. He didn't do too bad at Everton and might be the best qualified of the bunch. Huddle came here after falling from grace, for different reasons, but tactically he was as good as I've seen at the club and he did a good job while he was here. McClaren..... Thanks, but NO THANKS! Poyet, not a patch on Poch.

Shrewdsaint says... Ronald Koeman's gone from nowhere to second favourite with the bookies. Someone knows something, maybe. Still Yakin for me.

pitbull says...The odds are tumbling that Murat Yakin will be our next boss. I also like the sound of Paul Clement. One person who has not been mentioned on this forum is Andres Villas-Boas. When he took over at Spurs he got some stick from the fans for replacing Harry Redknapp. He would certainly have a score to settle.

Blackknight says... After a great season and Saints fans optimistically high expectations for next we are all let down with a huge bump. What might have been if MoPo had stayed and we had made 2 or 3 really top class signings. Clearly the ambitions, 'vision' and finance to back it up from owner and board did not match Pochettino's expectations. Never a dull moment when your a Saints fan.

InThatNumber says... We could have got to the FA Cup final if Pochettino respected the competition a bit more. It's a sad loss but not irreplaceable, losing Lallana, Shaw, Lovren etc will be a much bigger blow. I personally would like to see Murat Yakin, admittedly the Swiss league is not a strong league but he won it and did beat Chelsea home and away in the Champions league. COYR

costa gaz says... Wouldn't mind Poyet, however his loyalty is something to be considered, if he was prepared to be dumped Sunderland after such a short time, who's to say he wouldn't do the same to us should he become a success.

SaintSteve76 says... Personally I would love to see David Moyes. Ok he failed at Man U but at Preston and Everton he was a huge success. When he took over at Everton they were a relegation threatened team.

Rudolf Hucker says... I hope Michael Laudrup will be the next Saints manager. His attacking and passing from the back style is the same as Mopo's. Can't see AP returning, under many circumstances. The only other candidate imo would be Malky MacnKay.

markodarko29 says... Maybe Tony Pulis is a manager worth considering after the great season he had at Palace, plus I think he still lives locally.

Continued on opposite page

ST MARY'S STARS

From page 7

August 17, 2013
West Bromwich Albion 0 Saints 1
(Lambert pen, 90)

Rickie Lambert scored a late winner from the penalty spot to give Saints an opening-day victory at West Brom, as the striker capped what he described as "the best week of my life".

Lambert was just days removed from the birth of his daughter and then his England debut – in which he scored the decisive goal against Scotland, at Wembley.

The forward beat West Brom keeper Ben Foster from 12 yards in the 90th minute, after Youssuf Mulumbu was judged to have tripped Luke Shaw in the area. It was a well-deserved victory for Saints, who also had a first-half Adam Lallana goal controversially ruled out for offside. Lambert's dream week arguably then took a turn for the worse, as the club completed the signing of Roma striker Dani Osvaldo in a club-record deal 24 hours after the win at the Hawthorns, giving him some serious competition up front.

Poch's view: "We scored a goal that wasn't allowed to stand.

"It was a legal goal and we were unlucky in that sense.

"I think in the overall reading of the game we were superior.

"In football nowadays you play for sometimes 94-95 minutes and you always have to believe you are going to win until the last whistle.

"I want to congratulate my team because, even in the second half, when West Bromwich was pressing us quite hard, my team showed resolve to keep the result and keep it 0-0 and we were able to get that winning goal."

Why top ten?

Saints are known for their poor starts to the season, but this one was different. After a pre-season that had caught the eye with several big signings, Dejan Lovren and Victor Wanyama with Dani Osvaldo following later, and training camps in Spain and Austria that indicated Saints would be a very fit team, fans were licking their lips in anticipation of the season. It was this result that marked the beginning of a run of result that saw Saints sit third in late October as the country raved about Saints' attacking playing style. With seven clean-sheets in nine games, this excellent start was out of the ordinary for a club used to early season failure.

September 21, 2013

Liverpool 0 Saints 1 (Lovren 53)

Ten years on from their last victory at Anfield, Saints stunned early league leaders Liverpool thanks to Dejan Lovren's second-half header. This was an outstanding performance from Mauricio Pochettino's team, who blunted what would prove to be one of the division's fiercest attacks.

Sure, Luis Suárez was banned after biting Chelsea's Branislav Ivanovic towards the end of the previous season, but the Reds still possessed plenty of firepower.

Artur Boruc had to make a superb save from a Steven Gerrard free-kick, as Saints resisted some first-half pressure, but it was the visitors who took control after the break.

They edged in front when £8.5m summer signing Dejan Lovren continued his



GET IN: Dejan Lovren celebrates his winner at Anfield.



HIGH FLIER: Jay Rodriguez is delighted by his goal at Craven Cottage in February.

exceptional start to the campaign, heading home an Adam Lallana corner shortly after the interval.

Saints had chances to add a second, but didn't need it, as they held on comfortably.

Poch's view: "We played very well in a very tough stadium, so we are very pleased with how we played.

"I think especially in the second half we were much superior to them and we developed how we wanted to play in the second half.

"We fully believed from the outset and our performance was outstanding I thought."

Why top ten?

It had become obvious that Pochettino's Saints team ignored reputations and were able to play with free-flowing attacking style at even the most daunting of English football stadiums.



DEMOLITION JOB: Adam Lallana marks his England call-up with a goal against Hull.



TEAM EFFORT: Adam Lallana (centre, right) is full of smiles after scoring the third goal in Saints' 4-0 rout of Newcastle in March.

Liverpool lost just twice all season at Anfield, the other was the 2-0 defeat to Chelsea that pretty much cost them the Premier League title. Saints' performances were earning huge plaudits and it wouldn't be long before England boss Roy Hodgson came knocking for several stars.

November 9, Hull City
Saints 4 (Lambert 2, Lallana, Rodriguez) Hull 1 (Sagbo)

Just 48 hours after being called up for England, Rickie Lambert, Adam Lallana and Jay Rodriguez led Saints' demolition of Hull.

They led after 16 minutes, as Rickie Lambert nodded Nathaniel Clyne's cross into the path of Morgan Schneiderlin, who headed home from close range. Lambert then doubled the advantage from the penalty spot, after Hull keeper Steve Harper had felled Adam Lallana in the area.

Lallana got in on the act with an effort that would ultimately be voted as the

club's goal of the season. The Saints captain showed tremendous skill and balance to work his way past four Hull players, before opening up his body to roll a shot past Harper and into the far corner. Early in the second half, the hosts gifted Yannick Sagbo a goal, but Hull never really threatened to truly get back into the match. The points were wrapped up late on, when Rodriguez flicked the ball to Clyne down the right, with the full-back's low cross finding Steven Davis, who beat Harper for 4-1.

Poch's view: "I am very happy. I want to congratulate all of my players. They put in an amazing performance – all of them.

"They had a great performance and I am very pleased with all of them."

Why top ten?

It reflects hugely on a manager's abilities when his players get international

MORE SAINTS REACTION IN MONDAY'S DAILY ECHO

Saints Spotlight

IMPRESS ENGLAND

Fans Focus



OFF TO A FLIER: Rickie Lambert celebrates his match-winning penalty at West Brom.

recognition. This result was a combination of continuation of excellent performances, the club reaching third in the Premier League and a celebration of three players getting England call-ups. It was a party atmosphere at St Mary's as they dismantled Hull.

February 1, 2014
Fulham 0 Saints 3 (Lallana 64, Lambert 70, Rodriguez 79)

England manager Roy Hodgson watched on as Adam Lallana, Rickie Lambert and Jay Rodriguez all got on the score sheet in a fine Saints display.

The trio were in superb form at Craven Cottage, although it took over an hour for the visitors to make the breakthrough. Lallana was the one who bagged the first of Saints' three goals, racing onto Lambert's beautifully-weighted pass down the inside left channel and firing a low shot into the far corner.

Lambert then doubled the lead, with a

crisp finish from Nathaniel Clyne's low ball across goal, but the best was saved for last. Lambert played a stunning, curling pass from deep in his own half that picked out Rodriguez's run down the left. He then cut inside and bent a glorious shot into the far top corner to make it 3-0.

Poch's view: "It was very important that the three strikers got goals and got on the scoresheet and that's always going to increase their chances of making it to the World Cup in Brazil.

"I think in the first half we were a bit mistaken about our set up.

"We knew Fulham were going to be defending deep and would be wanting to close down the spaces for us and that they were going to be trying to go on the counter attack.

"In the second half we corrected certain positions and that allowed us to get the goal."

Why top ten?

This was an outstanding performance by Saints. Even though Fulham were one of the weakest teams in the league and were eventually relegated it was a classy display. It was a game that encapsulated what Saints stood for under Pochettino – pressing, energetic and attractive. There were also fears at this point following the departure of Nicola Cortese that Pochettino would go, but this nullified the supposed meltdown at St Mary's.

March 8, 2014
Crystal Palace 0 Saints 1 (Rodriguez 37)

Saints beat Crystal Palace to record a sixth away win of the season, marking a new club record in the Premier League era.

Jay Rodriguez gave the visitors the lead with one of the stranger goals of his career, racing clear and winning a 50-50 outside the area with Palace keeper

Julian Speroni. As he fell onto his back-side, the Saints forward was able to stroke the ball into the empty net from 25 yards.

Rickie Lambert nearly doubled the lead before half-time, but his deft finish from ten yards struck the post and went to safety.

Palace gave as good as they got, though, and were able to put Saints under pressure in the second half, but the visitors were composed throughout and did well to hold on to their slender advantage.

Poch's view: "I thought it was a really tough game.

"This was one of the toughest stadiums I have had to come to in the Premier League.

"I thought that we were playing against a team that presses quite high, that demands from you quite a big physical effort and, despite that, we played our way, the way we know how to."

"We always kept the ball on the pitch despite the ground not being in that great condition.

"I think overall the victory was well deserved by my team."

Why top ten?

Under the management of Tony Pulis Palace were a tough side to beat. Typically of Pulis' teams, the Londoners were physical, strong and direct – they had lost just twice in eight games at home since the former Stoke boss was hired, but Saints were able to snatch a 1-0 win and set the away wins record.

March 29, 2014
Saints 4 (Rodriguez 45, 89, Lambert 49, Lallana 70) Newcastle 0

This was arguably the most one-sided contest that Saints were involved in all season, as they destroyed Newcastle at St Mary's.

The Magpies, aside from their outstanding keeper Rob Elliot, offered almost no resistance from start to finish.

In the end, 4-0 was about the least that Saints deserved. Despite battering Newcastle early on, it wasn't until the stroke of half-time that the hosts took the lead, Steven Davis playing in Rickie Lambert, who squared for Jay Rodriguez to tap in.

Lambert then volleyed in from close range after being picked out by Adam Lallana's cross, before Lallana himself drove a stunning 25-yard shot into the top corner for 3-0.

A miserable day for former Saints manager Alan Pardew was then capped when Rodriguez fired through Elliot's legs late on.

Poch's view: "I am very happy. The performance was amazing.

"I am very happy for the players and very happy for the supporters.

"We had an amazing performance and not just the final result but the way that we played was outstanding."

Why top ten?

Newcastle and Saints had been in a two team mini-league for much of the season. It was the battle for eighth place. It should have been a far more equal affair but Saints were that good and Newcastle were that poor.

Although, by this point, Saints had nothing to play for, with Europe out of reach, it was a performance of a side that still had the desire to impress.

Dorssaints says... Murat Yakin would take us further. We should expect to see two players leave a season, Ajax do, Arsenal do why should we not expect to? We have £50m to spend with the money from Shaw; let's get a keeper left back centre back, striker and winger, 5 players in Lallana and Shaw look likely to go, but we end up stronger and finish above Spurs! The future is bright the future is red and white!

SPIKEISLANDTRADER says... Moyes > NO Poyet > NO Pardew > NO We need a manager with conviction to get us into EUROPE, not 1 that's happy with mid-table. Luckily time is on our side, unlike the teams that lost their managers with the season still being played. Please SAINTS, choose wisely and make the new era something to cheer about. At least M.P. stayed until the end of the season, so give him that respect, if nothing else!

7saint7 says... I thought Pochettino would go when Cortese went. Fair play to Pochettino for staying till the end of season. It's sad to have lost a great manager & even greater chairmen who worked magic at our club. Had great plans for our loved club. What worries me most is this Kruger guy.

Alty Saint says... Let's get over Poch, he made us believe we could achieve greater things but Murat Yakin is as good if not better and could take us further next season if he gets the job. COYR!!

Santa Retfordia says... Actually, I reckon we should continue with our policy of recruiting Argentinians from the 1998 World Cup. Do you reckon Diego Simeone fancies a new challenge? I can't help but think he's taken Atletico as far as they can go.

hdfw09 says... As a Saints fan in the United States, I am filled with hope. I have been to St Mary's twice. I have grown fond of the city and the Saints. I was there when we clinched promotion to the Premier League and stormed the pitch with my fellow Saints fans. This interview leaves me feeling optimistic (with Ralph Krueger). I'm sure we will lose one key name, but I see the silver lining. We will invest. We will attract new talent. We will challenge for European football. I hope for stability. In the previous 18 months, we have sacked Nigel, Nicola resigned, we inherited a new board and MoPo resigned. We need stability. The future rests in Katharina's commitment to Markus' passion. Given the investment in the board, scouts and training ground, she is taking the necessary steps to show me she is committed. I respect what MoPo did for us, but there is always room for improvement. I wish him well, yet I want to win matches (score goals) when we have 65%+ possession. We can improve. I look forward to a very positive summer and to attending more matches in Southampton next year. Either I am making complete sense and am an eternal optimist, or the wine is too delicious right now. COYR!!

Thankyounicola says... Don't you dare let Poch poach any of our players Ralph (Krueger). Don't you dare let that happen. You need to show who the boss is now that he has left!!!

WORLD CUP COUNTDOWN ALL NEXT WEEK IN THE DAILY ECHO

Teams to watch in World Cup's extravaganza

World stars who miss out

THE major talking points of World Cup squad selections are often not focused on those players selected but instead on those who have not made it to the finals.

Here The Pink analyses a talented list of high-profile missing men.

Phillipe Coutinho – Midfielder – Brazil – Age 20

A key man during Brendan Rodgers' Liverpool revolution, amassing 50 appearances this season while contributing eight goals and seven assists. But Brazil coach Luiz Felipe Scolari deemed him surplus to requirements. He certainly has a bright future and time is still on his side to make an impact at international level.

Isco – Midfielder – Spain – Age 22

Made the move from Malaga to Real Madrid last summer and became an instant hit at the Bernabeu, scoring a late goal against Real Betis in the club's first home league fixture of the season. The promising midfielder made over 30 appearances this term, but Spain are blessed with a plethora of talent in the middle.

Javier Pastore – Forward – Argentina – Age 24

The Paris St Germain attacker was one of the first big-money signings fuelled by Qatari investment at the Parc des Princes back in the summer of 2011. He was included in Diego Maradona's World Cup squad four years ago but has struggled to break into Laurent Blanc's starting XI in Paris, making a just 12 league starts this season.

Samir Nasri – Midfielder – France – Age 26

France coach Didier Deschamps is believed to have overlooked the Premier League winner for not buying into the team ethos.



title run-in.

His girlfriend's angry outburst at Deschamps' decision on social media has not helped his cause. Nasri was in great form for Manchester City last season, playing a key role with timely goals during the

Ronaldinho – Forward – Brazil – Age 34

Not selected because he's "too old" for a World Cup – try telling that to Andrea Pirlo and Steven Gerrard. Ronaldinho is stuck on 97 caps for Brazil – a tally it seems unlikely he will add to in the future – despite enjoying a successful career revival at Atletico Mineiro. A player of his quality and experience could have proved an invaluable inclusion in the squad.

Roberto Soldado – Striker – Spain – Age 28

The Spaniard's 29th birthday must have witnessed muted celebrations after he missed out on Vicente del Bosque's World Cup squad. Despite his great record in Spain that resulted in Del Bosque taking him to the Confederations Cup last summer, Soldado has struggled to produce the goods consistently since moving to Tottenham.

Italy are aiming high



TEMPERAMENTAL: Italian striker Mario Balotelli.

ITALY are making their 18th appearance in a World Cup finals this summer in Brazil with only one thing in mind.

The Azzurri fully expect to go deep into the tournament and challenge the top sides – and that's bad news for England.

Cesare Prandelli's squad, who finished runners-up at Euro 2012 and came in third at last year's Confederations Cup, are in England's group.

"Brazil, Argentina, Germany and Spain are the favourites, and then there is us, Uruguay, England, Holland, Belgium, Colombia and Japan," Prandelli said. "But we can do well against the best."

"I don't fear facing the top teams."

"I would like to eventually face Brazil, Argentina, Spain and other top teams in the competition with courage."

The Italians went unbeaten in the qualifying phase, conceding just nine goals while scoring 19 to top their group.

Defence is traditionally Italy's strength, and that is what Prandelli expects to have this summer.

The coach will have at his disposal a spine made up of Juventus champions.

Italy veteran captain and goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon along with defenders Giorgio Chiellini and Leonardo Bonucci were linchpins in a Juve squad that conceded just 23 goals in 37 league games.

The Italians will also depend on the creativity of Juventus playmaker Andrea

Pirlo, who will have club team-mate Claudio Marchisio by his side.

Roma's Daniele De Rossi is also all but guaranteed a place in the Azzurri midfield.

The Italians' dilemma, as always, remains the attack.

Prandelli received good news when Fiorentina's Giuseppe Rossi was made available for selection. Rossi was out of action for four months after suffering a knee injury in January. He recently returned to playing.

Temperamental AC Milan forward Mario Balotelli, who was Italy's top scorer in qualifying with five goals, is set to make the squad.

Balotelli has faced criticism after some of his performances this season, scoring 14 times in 29 Serie A appearances.

That wasn't enough to help Milan qualify for Europe next season.

There is a big question mark over Roma's top scorer, Mattia Destro. He was last month left out of a national team selection for breaching Prandelli's code of conduct for indiscipline at club level.

Prandelli has warned all players that he will not tolerate further misbehaviour.

"The players of the national team must have the strength not to fall into provocation at the World Cup," Prandelli said.

Serie A's top scorer Ciro Immobile is likely to battle for a starting place.

He was included in Prandelli's preliminary squad after an impressive campaign with Torino which saw him find the back

of the net 22 times in 33 league appearances.

The good news for Prandelli is that the players should be well rested.

Only Juventus this year reached the semi-final stages of a European club competition.

The Italians may have designs on going far at the World Cup but they will have a challenge from the start.

The Azzurri are in Group D with England, Uruguay and Costa Rica.

Italy begin their adventure against England in Manaus on June 14.

They then face Costa Rica in Recife six days later and end the group stages against Uruguay in Natal on June 24.

"Our first aim is to progress from the group stages," Prandelli said. "We all have to understand that we are in a particularly difficult group."

"We will need 23 players in top condition and I believe if we arrive to the tournament in good form, then we can have a great tournament."

The Azzurri have won the tournament four times, including eight years ago in Germany.

"It's always beautiful to dream," Prandelli said. "We would like to go as far as we can in the competition."

"We travel to Brazil determined to obtain the maximum."

Cup's dark horses

WITH many observers feeling Spain could be past their best and with a massive weight of expectation on hosts Brazil, there could be an opportunity for a nation outside of the usual favourites to break through and take a surprise victory at the World Cup.

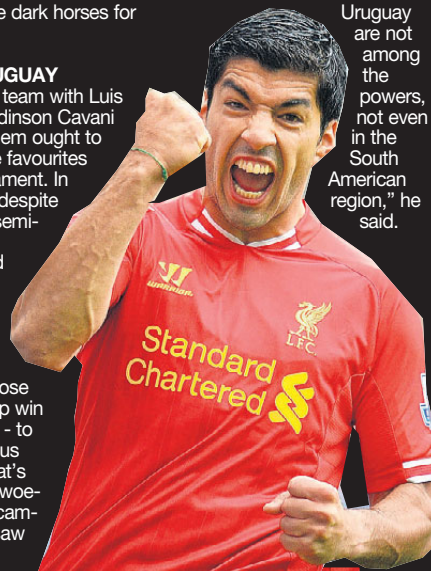
Here, The Pink takes a look at some of the dark horses for Brazil 2014.

URUGUAY

BY rights any team with Luis Suarez and Edinson Cavani available to them ought to be among the favourites for any tournament. In truth though, despite having been semi-finalists four years ago and being ranked sixth in the world by FIFA, few will be expecting Uruguay – whose last World Cup win came in 1950 – to mount a serious challenge. That's because of a woe-filled qualifying campaign which saw them scrape

into the tournament via a play-off with Jordan. Group D opponents England and Italy will not be underestimating the Copa America champions, though, even if their coach Oscar Tabarez is playing down his side's chances. "In football there is a first world and a third

world. We in Uruguay are not among the powers, not even in the South American region," he said.



PORTUGAL

ZLATAN Ibrahimovic's loss was Cristiano Ronaldo's gain when Portugal beat Sweden in the qualification play-offs. Portugal, ranked a generous third in the world rankings, are not a great team, but they do boast, on form, the world's greatest player. And if you're tempted to think one man cannot do it alone, it is worth remembering what happened in that Zlatan v Cristiano battle back in November – a 4-2 aggregate win for Portugal with all six goals scored by the tie's two great players. It might seem like an unbearable burden, but the Real Madrid star said: "I won't be putting myself under any pressure; I don't have to prove anything to anyone. I've spent many years playing at the highest level."

COLOMBIA

ONE of the more intriguing issues when the provisional squads for the World Cup were unveiled was whether or not Radamel Falcao would be

named by Colombia. The Monaco striker has not played since January when he sustained cruciate ligament damage, but was nonetheless chosen by coach Jose Pekerman. In conditions that should suit them and with players like Jackson Martinez available, Colombia could make an impression without Falcao but any hopes of winning the tournament surely rest on the fitness of their star man.

IVORY COAST

FANS hoping for that elusive first win for an African nation will be looking to Ivory Coast once again. In truth, though, their moment may have passed. With star men like Didier Drogba coming to the end of their careers, this is surely the final final chance for their perennially under-performing golden generation. There is also concern over a fatigued Yaya Toure, who picked up an injury on the final day of Manchester City's successful Premier League campaign. "It's clear that if Ivory Coast hopes to go far it will depend upon a successful World Cup from Yaya Toure," said coach Sabri Lamouchi.

WORLD CLASS:

Uruguay's Liverpool striker Luis Suarez.

Paine's World

The Saints legend's **EXCLUSIVE** column on all things football



FLASHBACK: Spain goalkeeper Iker Casillas, center, holds up the World Cup trophy after his side won the final in Johannesburg in 2010.

Could Belgium upset the odds at the World Cup?

SPAIN, the back-to-back European Championship winners and current holders of the FIFA World Cup, have been unbeatable.

Their attractive style of play encompasses a combination of passing the opposition to death whilst constantly pressing them, and starving them of any attacking impetus.

However, they are starting to show signs of mortality, having laboured until the final of their second continental victory.

Then, in last year's Confederations Cup, they suffered a crushing 3-0 defeat to Brazil in the final and only managed a nervy penalty shoot-out win against Cesare Prandelli's Italy to get there.

So, as the utter dominance of Spain begins to fade, perhaps the time is right for one of the less favoured nations to stake a claim for dominance.

Perennial underperformers Belgium have been poor in recent years, with their national side having not qualified for a major tournament since the 2002 World Cup.

Their success has matched the size of their country and not the soccer tradition that was created by the golden teams of the 1980s and '90s that came second in Euro 1980 and fourth in the 1986 World Cup.

However, it seems the tide has now begun

to turn, with dozens of talented footballers coming out of the Flemish country of late, and the vast majority are now plying their trade in the Premier League.

Marouane Fellaini and Christian Benteke have been cultured in sterling academies such as Standard Liege and Genk, while many others learned their trade abroad, moving to far flung European academies at tender ages to pursue a career at a higher standard of sporting prowess.

Those players include Jan Vertonghen, Moussa Dembélé and Nacer Chadli, who all moved to the Netherlands.

Vertonghen and Dembélé were both tutored at arguably the most prestigious academy of world football other than Barcelona's La Masia academy — Ajax.

Interestingly, Johan Cruyff played a huge part in the current set up of both academies.

Other players such as Eden Hazard and Thibaut Courtois were taught in France, England and Spain.

There must also be a degree of luck or destiny in the com-

ing together of so many sublime and athletic players currently vying for a place in the starting 11 with a world-class crop of Nacer Chadli, Romelu Lukaku, Kevin Mirallas, Dries Mertens and Bayern Munich veteran Daniel van Buyten regularly warming the bench.

In goal, Belgium have an embarrassment of riches, with La Liga goalkeeper of the year Courtois, who some see as the best goalkeeping prospect in the world.

Experienced Premier League goalkeeper and recently instated Kop hero Simon Mignolet is another option.

The back line also has the potential to be watertight, with arguably the best defensive playing staff in international football in front of these two shot-stoppers.

The strength and class of Tottenham and Manchester City's indispensable centre-halves Vertonghen and Kompany is crucial alongside Arsenal captain Thomas Vermaelen and instrumental Ajax defender Toby Alderweireld.

In midfield, the qual-

ity and style of play is dictated by the irrepressible trickery and guile of Hazard, pictured below, and Kevin De Bruyne, the power of Axel Witsel, and smoothness of Dembélé.

Finally, up top, they have three of the most sought-after players of this transfer window in the awe-inspiring potency of Benteke, Lukaku and Porto striker Mertens.

Marc Wilmots's side will very much be the dark horses of this year's competition.

They have a brilliant first-team squad that oozes class and technical ability, and strength-in-depth that other nations can only envy. They have a team of leaders, experience, physicality and skill.

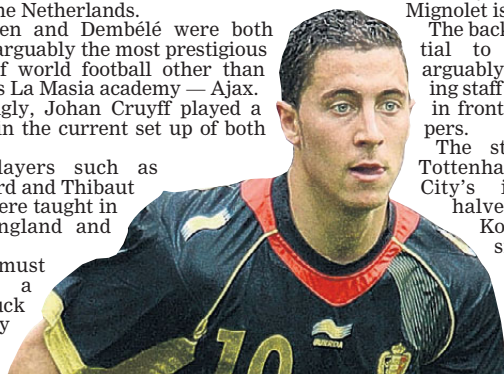
However, it may be argued that Belgium are yet to be tested in a big tournament.

Understandably, the country isn't as fancied as the traditional heavyweights that are favorites: Brazil, Germany, Spain, Italy, etc.

This may point to an improved squad at FIFA World Cup 2018 due to the strength-in-depth, as well as the youth of the current squad, which is in their favour.

Perhaps if they fail in Rio, Russia will await them with open arms.

However, one thing is certain; they will be a dominant force in the world of football in the near future.



SOUTHERN
Daily Echo

FIND THE BALL



THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT

£32,000

or £2,300 Nearest miss prize

PLUS 70 consolation prizes of £15 each week**20 for Southern Daily Echo
20 for Daily Echo Bournemouth
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FIND THE BALL is a test of skill and football knowledge and is open to readers of the Southampton, Bournemouth, Dorset Echos, Brighton Argus and Sunday Independent, Plymouth.

You have to use your skill and judgement to determine the exact centre of the ball.

Mark an X with a ballpoint pen on the picture where you consider that position to be – clear rubber stamps and self adhesive labels will also be accepted.

Every coupon will be carefully examined and the jackpot prize will be paid to the entrant whose cross marks the exact centre of the ball when the photograph was taken.

If the Jackpot is not won, £1,000 will be added to next week's jackpot and £50 will be added to the nearest-miss prize.

The nearest-miss prize will be paid out to the competitor whose cross is nearest to the centre of the ball when there is no jackpot winner.

When a jackpot has been won the next week's prize reverts back to £6,000 and the nearest-miss prize at £1,000.

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If there is still no entry showing the exact centre of the ball, the process is repeated until there is an exact centre of the ball winner.

If there is more than one winner the jackpot will be shared and, similarly, if there is more than one runner-up the nearest miss prize will also be shared.

RESULTS



CLOSING DATE FOR POSTAL ENTRIES
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5 June
2014
Names of winners will be published on
Saturday,
7 June
or Sunday
8 June
2014

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12noon Tuesday
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Closing time Monday

Deadlines for selected newsagents collection boxes as listed in:
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closing time Monday
Southern Daily Echo
10.00 am Tuesday
Dorset Echo
Closing time Monday

A list of participating newsagents will be published in the Echos on the first Saturday of each month

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Cheques payable to Newsquest

Winners

Competition number **S19**

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J Buckle, Southampton, Hants	S Smith, Chandlers Ford, Hants
W Cox, Fareham, Hants	J Veitch, Waltham Chase, Hants
J Cutler, Southampton, Hants	D Walsh, Hythe, Hants
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1. You are allowed a minimum of 60 crosses and a maximum of 325 per coupon. Coupons with 326 or more will be disqualified. Entries altered defaced or mutilated will be invalid. Crosses must be distinct and separate. **2.** Competitors may submit as many coupons as they wish. Members of a family can send their entries in one envelope with a covering postal order or cheque. **3.** No responsibility can be accepted for entries delayed, lost or mislaid. Proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery. **4.** Payment may be made by postal order or cheque for the correct amount payable to Newsquest, and crossed 'X' Co.' Stamps **will not** be accepted in payment. **5.** A competitor cannot win more than one share of the prize money across all titles each week. **6.** The Editor's decision on winning entry or entries and matters relating to this competition is binding in honour only. **NO CORRESPONDENCE CAN BE ENTERED INTO.** **7.** Employees of NEWSQUEST Media Group and subsidiary companies and members of their families are not eligible to enter the competition. **8.** Address entries to FTB PO Box 24 Competitions, Southampton SO16 9ZD in a sealed envelope. Understamped entries are not accepted. **9.** Prize monies are held for and on behalf of winners. **10.** Do not send cash in the post. **11.** Winners will be required to participate in publicity. **12.** Photocopies not accepted. **13.** For rules go to www.dailyecho.co.uk/promotions/rules, www.newsquest.co.uk/terms or write in for a copy.



Saints fans will move on from Poch

GONE: Mauricio Pochettino left Saints this week to join Tottenham.

BEAUTIFUL SOUTH

BY DAREN WHEELER

AND so he leaves. After weeks of speculation Mauricio Pochettino finally left for the bright lights of the capital city.

I must be getting old or perhaps the revolving exit door that sits at the front of St Mary's has worn me down, but I'm really not that concerned at the Argentine's departure. Really I'm not.

It was hardly a surprise he left. When a manager accepts a job that already has an occupant you can hardly be surprised when, further on down the line, he deserts you for a better offer.

Likewise, we cannot feign outrage when we treated his predecessor so shabbily – Nigel Adkins left an impressive legacy and deserved so much better than what he got. Mauricio Pochettino was never going to be a long term option. Sadly, these days, few managers are.

It's heart-breaking to be a football fan. Football is a sport, it's a mixture of ups and downs, highs and lows and is often an emotional rollercoaster.

The key word there is emotion, football is partly powered by emotion. How else can you explain fans paying such exorbitant sums for season tickets without knowing what our prospects are for the following season?

Could you imagine a theatre goer paying over a grand upfront for theatre tickets not knowing what the production is or who the stars are?

Football fans do so year after year. They can't change teams or go for a cheaper option, their team is in their blood.

We're often told, when players or managers leave a club, that's business and if we ordinary folk were offered a job elsewhere for more money and a better contract, we'd take it at the drop of a hat.

This is true. However, when said player/manager then cites what a wonderful club it is he joining and what wonderful history it has, they blow it.

It's a cheap play on the emotions of the fans, it's a trite cliché rolled out to placate the fans.

No employee in the history of employment has worried more about the history of their employer than the salary, the financial package and the holiday arrangements.

When did you last hear a friend boasting to you about the job they got at, say, British Gas and what a wonderful history the company has?

No, they'll be more concerned about pay and conditions than the company's history.

History is just a trump card used as a decider on when discussing: "My team's better than your team."

It is of no use whatsoever in real life. History defines where you are up to right now, but it's the here and now that compels us to attend games. No football fan goes to St Mary's to rem-

inisce on the good ol' days, they go there for the game, the present tense.

Past meetings have no bearing on the game that's going on in front of you. No one cares if Manchester United have won the last ten encounters, it has no impact on the game whatsoever, it's akin to having an argument with a Frenchman about who's better, England or France and him bringing up the battle of Hastings.

And it's the mention of Tottenham's history by Pochettino that rankles the most.

If you're an up-and-coming manager looking for silverware then surely Tottenham Hotspur are the last club you'd want to join.

They've won one trophy, the League Cup, in 25 years and have qualified for the Champions League just once in the last 10.

In fact, in that 25 year period Tottenham have gone through 20 managers, both full time and interim – the Spurs job is hardly what you would call a steady one.

Tottenham are one of those clubs that are perceived as being a big club but there's little evidence to back that up.

Their ground capacity is 36,310, just 4,000 seats more than St Mary's.

They have a history that most definitely involves more silverware than us but history is irrelevant the moment the season begins.

If you have any Tottenham fans as friends and they boast about their history, ask them to name a player from their title winning sides of 1950-51 or 1960-61?

It may be controversial to say it, but unless you saw it or were there then you're just quoting facts from history.

Unless you experience that event it's meaningless.

In short, thank you Mauricio.

I'm sure I'm not alone in finding it amusing that you were looking to work with a world class squad of players, conveniently forgetting the team full of internationals you've left behind.

In closing, Mauricio Pochettino has left the building, as did Nigel Adkins and Alan Pardew before him.

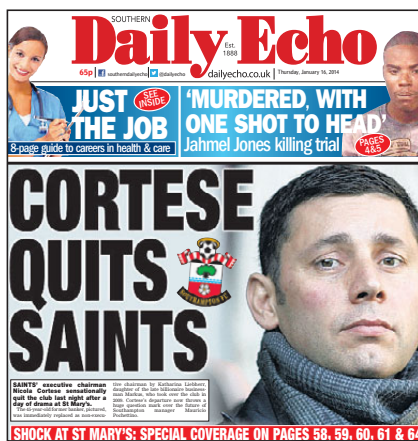
Each time the club has surprised the so called experts and improved the management situation rather than depleting it.

Until I hear from the Liebherrers, who have never let this football club down, I'll reserve my judgement and place my faith in the people who saved this club from certain oblivion and turned us into the club everyone wants.

In short, hold on tight, show a little faith and who knows, in six months' time Mauricio Pochettino may well be long forgotten.



Saints Spotlight



HOW THE STORY UNFOLDED: A selection of Echo pages from the last few months coursing Pochettino's eventual exit from Saints.



TIMELINE OF

MAURICIO Pochettino resigned as manager of Saints this week but it was the departure of Nicola Cortese from St Mary's in January that first fuelled speculation over his future at the club.

Here the *Sports Pink* have mapped out the events covered by the *Daily Echo* that unfolded during the past six months before his resignation and employment at Tottenham.

The restructuring of the club's hierarchy after Cortese's surprise exit, may have fuelled the Argentine's desire to leave Saints. Here you can see an overview.

January 16, 2014

After weeks of rumours, Nicola Cortese, the executive chairman responsible for hiring Mauricio Pochettino, departed St Mary's. Club owner Katharina Liebherr, the daughter of the late Markus Liebherr, who bought the club with Cortese in 2009, had returned to Saints with plans to become more involved in the general running of the club.

Pochettino's perspective: Cortese and Pochettino had a good working relationship. Pochettino was Cortese's man and had said in the past that he wouldn't be involved in the club if it wasn't for the Swiss Italian banker. That instantly fuelled rumours that the Argentine would be the next to go.

The Daily Echo reported...

SAINTS' executive chairman Nicola Cortese sensationally quit the club last night after a day of drama at St Mary's. And... MAURICIO Pochettino is today expected to reveal whether he will follow Nicola Cortese out of the St Mary's exit door.

January 17, 2014

Mauricio Pochettino defused what was being described as the beginning of a 'meltdown' at St Mary's following the departure of Cortese by announcing that he would be staying the club for the time being.

Pochettino's perspective... It was a day where he must have felt like a hero. Every fan was waiting eagerly for what he was



TAKING OFF: Mauricio Pochettino left Saints for Spurs this week.

going to say. Was he going to stay? Had he left already? Was he actually going to follow Cortese out the door? However, he was a knight in shining armour for supporters, the man who hushed speculation, meaning Saints, for now, could continue as they were. The five-year plan was unaffected. For most, the end of the season was far enough away that debate over his future could wait, a more pressing matter was the performance of team.

The Daily Echo reported... Mauricio Pochettino has pledged his immediate future to Saints in the wake of Nicola Cortese's departure - but has refused to give any guarantees over his long-term status.

January 21, 2014

Following speculation of takeovers by a Chinese conglomerate, which proved to be false, and who would work in what capacity at Saints, Katharina Liebherr announced that she would be creating a new board to run the club.

Pochettino's perspective... Having a new board would affect who he'd ultimately answer to. Budgets, ambitions and philosophy could change because of the new hierarchy. Pochettino may have made the decision to leave at the end of the season as soon as Cortese left or it may have been that Pochettino wanted to see how

things panned out with a new board in place at St Mary's. This could have been the beginning of analysis from Pochettino of the people operating above him at the club.

The Daily Echo reported... Katharina Liebherr intends to appoint a full board of directors to oversee the running of Saints.

March 13, 2014

The arrival of Ralph Krueger after spending the Sochi Winter Olympics with the Canadian Ice hockey team, marked another turn in the direction of the club. He was a far different prospect to Cortese. Krueger announced the club was not for sale.

Pochettino's perspective... Yet another change in the hierarchy above him. There must have been uncomfortable moments for the Argentine with uncertainty about the club's future plans. He would have already known that the Saints job had already improved his stock and would lead to offers from other clubs.

The Daily Echo reported... NEW chairman Ralph Krueger has ushered in a fresh era at Saints and emphatically stated that the club is not for sale.

The 54-year-old Canadian-born German was officially unveiled yesterday as the successor to Nicola Cortese, who depart-

ed in January.

March 15, 2014

Following the arrival of Ralph Krueger, Pochettino confirmed that he is planning in the long term at Saints. It was an indication for Saints that Pochettino would be open to a contract offer and may sign if the terms are right, although he was likely just waiting for another offer before staying with Saints for another year.

Pochettino's perspective... He was comfortable with the presence of Ralph Krueger and the new board and would consider a future at Saints, or that's the persona he wished to give off anyway.

The Daily Echo reported... Mauricio Pochettino has insisted he is happy at Saints and is planning for the long term - although he would not confirm if he has entered into negotiations over a new contract.

March 19, 2014

The lack of experience of football from the Saints board had fuelled speculation that they could be an easy target, meaning other clubs would be able to lure their stars away from St Mary's. But Krueger came out to reassure fans that wouldn't happen. Nicola Cortese was known as a no-nonsense business man, the new board wanted to prove that they were able to hold their own.

Pochettino's perspective... It is clear that this board are operating in a completely different way to how Cortese did, perhaps this didn't sit well with Pochettino.

The Daily Echo reported... Saints chairman Ralph Krueger says he has no concerns about agents attempting to take advantage of his inexperience in football.

March 28, 2014

Following speculation that he'd be leaving for another club, Pochettino admitted that he won't be discussing a new contract until the end of the season.

Pochettino's perspective... Everything is in his hands. Saints want him to stay and he's able to keep them as 'back-up' if a better offer doesn't turn up. There will always be a job for him at St Mary's. Perhaps his motives were different and he was genuinely waiting on what the board proposed for the future, but following his move to Spurs it's hard to see that he wasn't plotting at this point.

SOUTHERN
Daily Echo



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Saints Spotlight

POCH'S EXIT

The Daily Echo reported... Mauricio Pochettino doesn't intend to discuss his future with Saints until the season is over. He is adamant he wishes to focus on pushing his team to the highest possible Premier League finish. Poch also reiterated that extending his current contract is not a priority to him, although he conceded the club may view it differently.

There has been fevered speculation as to whether the popular manager, whose deal expires at the end of next season, will remain at St Mary's long term following the departure of Nicola Cortese in January.

April 12, 2014

Pochettino admits he wants to stay in the Premier League. Stay in the Premier League, yes. With Saints? No.

Pochettino's perspective... Well, that's indicated to clubs in England that he might be open to offers. He knows that he's got Saints playing incredible football and other teams will be after that style.

The Daily Echo reported... Mauricio Pochettino is adamant he sees his future in the Premier League.

Pochettino's contract situation continues to dominate his weekly press conferences as the season comes towards a close, with the Saints manager having just one further year remaining on his current deal. He also continues to be linked with big jobs across Europe on an almost daily basis, but wants to stay in England – though he admits "all possibilities are open".

April 26, 2014

Les Reed states that the club will try to keep hold of star players and manager. Some intent from the board and a big reassurance for the fans who are worrying about the future of stars.

Pochettino's perspective... Knows he is a popular figure among the Saints player, he has created an outstanding team spirit.

The Daily Echo reported... Les Reed has moved to reassure Saints fans that the club's board will fight to keep hold of their star players and manager. The Saints director, who is in charge of football operations at St Mary's, yesterday took the unusual step of addressing the media before Mauricio Pochettino's scheduled weekly pre-match press conference ahead of today's game against



WORRYING TIMES: Owner Katharina Liebherr and chairman Ralph Krueger.

Everton. He gave a passionate statement in which he slammed reports that big name players such as Luke Shaw and Adam Lallana were on the verge of agreeing huge money moves away from the club.

May 12, 2014

Pochettino offered a new deal at Saints as the club pin their hopes on a bumper new contract keeping the Argentinean at the club.

Pochettino perspective... A great situation to be in from his point of view, with a new more financially rewarding offer on the table for Saints. He had the power.

The Daily Echo reported... SAINTS have tabled a contract offer to Mauricio Pochettino in a bid to prevent him leaving the club this summer.

Pochettino is a prime candidate for the Tottenham job and has continually said he wishes to put off talks over his future until the end of the season. Behind the scenes, though, discussions are believed to have taken place already and the *Daily Echo* understands that Saints have indeed offered what they believe to be a very generous new deal. There has been an increasing sense of unease at St Mary's in recent weeks about whether Pochettino will stay with

the manager having just one year left on his current contract and Spurs said to be circling for him

May 14, 2014

Tim Sherwood is sacked by Tottenham. The Argentine is linked with the Spurs job, rumours continue, but nothing official yet. **Pochettino's perspective...** The contact from Spurs had likely been made, following Tim Sherwood's departure from White Hart Lane. He needed to decide between staying on the south coast and moving to London.

The Daily Echo reported... Mauricio Pochettino's future has been cast further into doubt after Tottenham sacked Tim Sherwood and made the Saints boss their number one target. Sherwood was axed yesterday after less than six months in charge at White Hart Lane, with Spurs chairman Daniel Levy said to have placed Pochettino, at the top of the list to replace him.

May 27, 2014

Rumours of Pochettino's departure turned into something more concrete. Social media was abuzz with speculation; it seemed it was only a matter of time before Saints would be looking for a new boss.

Pochettino's perspective... Well, by this point he'd obviously turned his back on Saints. No matter how good the contract offer was from Saints, he wanted to move on.

The Daily Echo reported... Saints are bracing themselves for the exit of manager Mauricio Pochettino.

The Saints boss has emerged as Tottenham's leading candidate to replace Tim Sherwood and talks are understood to be ongoing as the White Hart Lane club look to confirm the Argentinean as their new manager this week. Pochettino has one year remaining on his current Saints deal and has stalled on signing a bumper new contract, prompting unease at St Mary's as the feeling grew that he was waiting to see what developed at Spurs.

May 28, 2014

Pochettino resigns. Whether he decided that he was going in January or when the offer came in from Spurs it doesn't matter, the board were unable to convince him to stay. After the board stated they weren't to be taken for a ride in March, losing a highly popular and successful manager is a major embarrassment. Speculation was rife that the vultures were circling for Saints' star players too. Could it be the beginning of an exodus from St Mary's?

Pochettino's perspective... Perhaps he wasn't happy with the direction the board wanted to take the club. Perhaps he was waiting for a better offer, only using Saints as a stepping-stone. Maybe he had intended to leave since Cortese's departure. It could have been that he felt that he'd taken Saints as far as he could and wanted a new challenge. The reality is that he'd gone and Saints' situation, on the face of it, was looking more and more desperate.

The Daily Echo reported... Saints face a battle to prevent a summer exodus from St Mary's as increasing unease spreads in the dressing room following the departure of Mauricio Pochettino. *The Daily Echo* understands that a number of senior players are upset over Pochettino's decision to quit Saints for Tottenham, which was confirmed last night, and are considering their own futures at the club as a result.



DRUMS Your Daily Echo sport

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New chairman Ralph Krueger heads up a brand new era. There is 'zero' chance of Saints being sold, he says.

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Poch: That's when we'll discuss future

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Poch keen to stay in England... but admits 'all possibilities are open' as Spurs speculation rumbles on

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Non-league News

Romsey hit the road
RECENTLY appointed Romsey Town head coach James Phillips has lined up three pre-season friendlies for his new Sydenhams One charges. All three fixtures are away from home, starting with a trip to AFC Stoneham on Saturday, July 19.

Five days later (July 24) they visit Weymouth before taking on QK Southampton on July 26.

Romsey will maintain their strong links with Romsey Town Youth FC this coming season.

The youth side are holding a trials day tomorrow (Sunday, June 1) at Mountbatten School. Contact the club at romseytowntffc@gmail.com to register or for more details.

Totton & Eling trials

TOTTON & Eling Youth FC under-16s will be playing in the Southampton Youth League next season.

They are holding trials at Testwood School (6-8pm) on June 5, 11 and 19.

Please contact team manager Ian Clark on 07709 318550, 023 8086 8876 or at ijclark80@yahoo.co.uk.

Chairperson wanted

SOLENT University side Team Solent are seeking a chairperson to help steer the club forward.

This is a voluntary position and would suit an individual with a strong non-League football background who wants to play an active role in delivering an exciting and visionary project.

Interested parties should email a football CV and covering letter to secretary.teamsoilent@solent.ac.uk or ring Martin Nailor (023 8031 9787) or Matthew Bishop (023 8031 9125) for more information.

Fareham Town trials

FAREHAM Town FC's under-16s are holding trials for next season's Southampton Sunday Youth League on Thursday June 5, 12 and 19 from 7-9pm.

If you are ambitious, dedicated and fancy the challenge of facing top Hampshire sides as part of a strong squad and a well supported club please email secretarytffc@outlook.com with your name, contact details, previous clubs and two preferred positions.

Eastleigh boss "really looking forward" to challenge of non-league top flight

Wendy Gee

wendy.gee@dailyecho.co.uk

NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

RICHARD Hill says he is "really looking forward" to leading Eastleigh into the Conference Premier next season.

Having been right-hand man to the likes of John Gregory, Brian Little and Andy Hessenthaler in the past, the 50-year-old former Northampton and Watford player is well versed with the demands of the Football League.

But aside from a spell in charge at Stevenage Borough between 1998 and 2000, Hill is a newbie to non-League's top flight – and he can't wait to get started.

"I'm really looking forward to the Conference Premier," he said.

"You've only got to look at the games on BT Sport to see some of the stadiums we're going to be playing in next season.

"I don't know a lot of the managers at that level but I'll be very courteous and respectful of them all.

"I'm sure I'll get on better with some than others, but I won't have the time to row with the opposition bench!"

Eastleigh got a flavour of life in non-League's fast lane last season when they played the likes of Gateshead and Football League new boys Cambridge United in the FA Trophy.

As an ardent Leicester City fan, the visit of Gateshead was a particular thrill for Hinckley-born Hill, pictured below, with Foxes' legend Gary Mills stationed in the opposite dugout.

"I didn't know Gary Mills at all when we played them and I was actually a bit in awe of him," the Eastleigh boss confessed.

"Then I saw him at a Conference meeting a few weeks later and he was very complimentary about my team and how we'd beaten them that day.

"We've also had a bit of dialogue with Cambridge since we played them and we wouldn't have had that unless we'd been respectful of them."

The arrival of quality strike pair James Constable, from Oxford United, and Jack



PEDIGREE: Eastleigh new boy James Constable, centre.

HILL EXCITED BY PREMIER CHALLENGE

Midson, released by AFC Wimbledon, comes as a huge boost for Eastleigh as they prepare for their biggest ever challenge.

Constable, who turned his back on another season in League Two to join the Spitfires, admits to

being staggered by the quality of squad he is coming into – players of the calibre Ben Strevens, Chris Todd, Dean Beckwith, Jamie Collins and Craig McAllister.

He smiled: "I spent a couple of evenings looking at the players already there, wondering whether

I'd missed something and it was a squad that had just won promotion from the Conference Prem!

"Add the players in that Richard wants to sign, and it excites me."

It excites Hill too, but he can only wait and see how quickly his Skrill Conference South champions adapt.

"We'll have a better idea about ourselves after three or four months," he said.

"There will be players who we think are good players that won't make the impact we think they will and there will be players we're maybe not too sure about who will thrive.

"But I can't say that about the players without applying it to myself too.

"Do I go on to thrive at that level or fall by the wayside?"

"Only time will tell..."

"Going up into the Conference Premier is going to be a big test for the players – and for me – and hopefully we'll come through it together."

Skipper commits to Wimborne

SKIPPER and defender Scott Arnold, pictured right, and striker Matt Kemble have joined the raft of players committing to Wimborne Town for the 2014/15 Southern One South & West campaign.

Goalkeeper Jason Harvell, defender Billy Maybury, winger Jamie Davidson and former Bashley trio Ian Oliver, James Stokoe and top scorer Mark Gamble have also

signed contract terms, while George Webb and Adam Costello have agreed to stay.

Chuffed Magpies manager Steve Cuss said: "Scott Arnold is not only the club captain, he offers a wealth of experience out on the pitch. He is a very important member of the squad. "Matt Kemble has been scoring goals for us during the past three seasons and he was on top form at the

end of the last campaign. I am delighted with their decision to resign."

Wimborne will kick off their pre-season programme with a trip to Hamworthy United on Saturday, July 12.

The Cuthbury crew will be looking to restore club pride after being knocked out of the FA Cup by the Hammers last term.



CALL NON-LEAGUE WRITER WENDY GEE ON 023 8042 4483

Non-league Football

FORBES RECORD IN BENTLEY'S SIGHTS



ANDY FORBES

Non-league News

Gazzard slams Bash
CLUB legend Paul Gazzard has launched a scathing attack on the new regime at Bashley, claiming he had been replaced as manager prior to being contacted by chairman Angela Speechley-Price.

Gazzard, below, who served the club as player, coach and manager for over a decade, was replaced by Mrs Speechley-Price's husband Graham and former club stalwart Andy Darnton less than 48 hours after he and co-boss John Pyatt had stood down – and just after he had jetted off on a family holiday. Gazzard said: "I have been told they had chosen their manager three or four weeks before they tried to speak to me.

"They went behind my back and appointed the chairman's husband before they had clarified my position.

"I never wanted to leave on a sour note after 11 years, but I felt the new regime showed me no respect whatsoever.

"I had been considering my future anyway, but when I heard what was happening, I thought I would stand down rather than get sacked.

"I feel let down and it is a horrible way to end my time with a club so close to my heart."

Meanwhile, Bash secretary and interim executive member Tim Allan resigned from all positions at last week's annual general meeting – just 19 days after being co-opted onto the club's committee.



New boy should be targeting City legend's record goals tally – Malone

NEW Winchester City signing Warren Bentley is targeting 58-plus goals next season.

But director of football Dave Malone thinks the former Alresford Town hot-shot should be aiming his sights even higher.

In Malone's book, Bentley is in much the same mould as City's former cult hero Andy Forbes who banged in an incredible 76 goals in an unforgettable 2003/04 campaign when they roared to an FA Vase/Wessex League/ Wessex League Cup treble.

"Warren reminds me a lot of Forbesy, he has the same sort of movement," said Malone, pictured below.

"Warren scored 50-odd goals (58 in all competitions) for Alresford last season and he's told me he wants to better that.

"But I think he should be aiming for Forbes's club record of 76."

Having topped the Sydenhams Premier scoring charts last season, Bentley was high on the wanted list of Southern Premier promotion seekers Poole Town.

But the 24-year-old, who has just secured his first full-time teaching post in Southampton, has opted to follow departed Alresford co-managers Tim Cole and Danny Robinson to the Denplan City Ground where he has been signed on contract.

It means he remains a Wessex player for another season but, with Southern League ground grading now in place at Winchester, he will be hoping to spearhead a swift return to Division One South & West.

Malone said: "Warren, who played for City as a youngster, has been coveted by lots of other clubs, many of them playing at a higher level.



WARREN BENTLEY: Netted 58 goals in all competitions for Alresford last season.

Wendy Gee

wendy.gee@dailyecho.co.uk

NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

"However, the combination of a new career in teaching, plus the opportunity to help us move up the pyramid, has convinced him to join us.

"He's a sensible, level-headed, intelligent lad and he's taken time to make the right decision.

"This is a fresh challenge for him and I think it will do him good."

Bentley is the first player to have been signed on contract since Malone, accompanied by ex-Eastleigh chairman Paul Murray,

returned to the City helm last spring.

"We believe it's in the best interests of both the club and the player," said Malone. "For us, it stops the insecurity of someone knocking on our door every week wanting to take him away.

"And if Warren has success, we most certainly would not stand in his way if a bigger club came in for him. If someone decent did come in, we'd be happy to let him go at the right price."

With Charlie Austin – a prolific scorer for Poole during their Sydenhams Wessex League days – now heading for the Premier League with QPR, there is living proof that Step 5 players can go

all the way to the top.

"Warren's got a brand new job in teaching but I presume that if an opportunity of league football came along he would have to consider it," said Malone. "If he does well for us next season, it's possible a pro club might look at him, but he's 24 and not 19, so it would probably have to be now or never.

"When Forbesy was at City, several Football League clubs came close to signing him. But once he moved to Eastleigh, where goal scoring was obviously tougher, the opportunity never arose again.

"If Charlie Austin was (in his Wessex days) a better player than Forbesy (in his Wessex days), I will eat my faithful hat!"

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SUCCESS

IT was a roaring success, thousands of spectators flocking to Matterley Basin, near Winchester, to watch the world's top riders take part in this year's Motocross Festival.

The award-winning circuit played host to the British Motocross Grand Prix, with Antonio Cairoli overcoming the recent death of his father to extend his lead in the FIM Motocross World Championship with a superb display.

The seven-times world champion wore black in memory of his dad, but his heavy heart did not slow him down, as he recorded an emotional victory in the weekend's first race.

Red Bull KTM Factory Racing's Cairoli then took the runner-up spot in race two, which was enough to ensure him a fifth overall win of the season, as round eight of the championship concluded.

After the dismal weather towards the end of the week, Saturday night saw the ground staff spend hours working on the track in order to prepare it for the next day's racing.

The weather gods then smiled on the circuit, which was covered by blue skies and bathed in sunshine on Sunday.

Red Bull KTM also enjoyed a memorable weekend in the MX2 series, as championship leader Jeffrey Herlings roared home to a double victory to claim a maximum 50 points.

Daily Echo pictures
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Non-league Football



Non-league News

Dutton joins Hawks

BRIAN Dutton has joined Conference South outfit Havant & Waterlooville on a one-year deal.

The 29-year-old ex-Eastleigh and Weymouth midfielder arrives from Salisbury City where he played 22 games in the Skrill Premier last term.

"I had a great time at Salisbury, captaining the team to two promotions, but everything runs its course," said Dutton.

"Coming to Havant offers me something fresh and invigorating."

Dutton is the Hawks' third summer signing, joining striker Bradley Bubb, released by Aldershot Town, and goalkeeper Ryan Young from AFC Telford.

Norton first in at Town

FAREHAM Town boss Matt Parr has made his first summer signing.

New in at Cams Alders is hungry young striker Bradey Norton. Norton played for neighbours Gosport Borough in the Southern Premier Division days. He dual-registered for Town's Sydenhams Premier rivals AFC Portchester last season but injury ruled him out for much of the campaign.

"Failing to take our chances cost us so often in games last season, it was unreal at times," said Fareham boss Matt Parr. "Signing players such as Bradey and others we are currently talking to shows intentions for the season ahead."

Fareham, meanwhile, have welcomed in Dave Fuge and James Swann to run the reserves in the Wyvern League next season.

"Both are highly regarded and getting them to the club is a major coup for Matt (Parr) and the club. We wish them every success," said a Town statement.

Lew's Terras chance

AMBITIOUS wide man Lewis Blackmore is aiming to make his mark for Weymouth next season after joining the Southern Premier Division outfit.

The young winger, a product of AFC Bournemouth's youth academy, has made the summer switch from relegated Bashley and is determined to show the Terras what he can offer.

The former Wales under-16 international said: "I did have offers from elsewhere to come in and train at the start of pre-season but, because of my age and the platform I could potentially play at this season, Weymouth was the move I wanted to go for."

New Stockbridge supremo aiming to 'shop' local

NEW Stockbridge boss Dean Hutchins has hit the ground running as he begins preparations for the club's debut season in the Hampshire Premier League.

Hutchins has announced an open trial morning next Saturday (June 7) as the Robins – forced to pull out of Sydenhams One during a trouble-hit 2013/14 campaign – seek to revert to a more locally-based team.

"I am opening this up to all local players as an opportunity to see what is on offer at the club next season," Hutchins explained.

"Players interested in attending

the trial should contact the club via Stockbridgefc@hotmail.co.uk, leaving contact details."

Jack Hutchings has returned as team captain after spending last season with Andover New Street.

"Jack is a player I have worked with before who will be integral to building a team to compete in this league," Hutchins explained.

"Jack said if he was going to join, he wanted to be first to sign and lead by example."

Hutchins beat seven other candidates to the Stockbridge job and was selected by a sub-committee

comprising club president Dave Webb, Graham Macken from the youth section and local businessman Stewart Couch.

A club statement said: "We thank all those that applied. Making the choice between them was not easy. In the end we decided that Dean Hutchins fitted our vision of how we want the club to go forward."

"He came over as an intelligent, motivated person who was passionate about getting the job and said that, if appointed, he was not in it for the short term but wanted to grow as a manager and help

take the club forward again.

"We made it clear to Dean that we don't expect instant success. Our first aim is to forget the trials of last season and put the smiles back on the faces of all who love the club."

Hutchins had a three-year spell as a player under Howard Goddard at the old Andover FC but his playing career was cut short by injury, aged 25.

He became reserve team manager at Whitchurch United before furthering his coaching education with Basingstoke Town's Conference Youth Alliance side.



IN DEMAND: Basingstoke Town goalkeeper Joe McDonnell.

BASINGSTOKE Town face a fight to keep hold of young goalkeeper Joe McDonnell after his excellent form at the end of last season attracted the attention of Football League clubs.

The 20-year-old, a product of Town's academy, enjoyed a successful loan spell at Hendon and then put in a string of fine performances for Basingstoke when pressed into action in place of injured No1 Louis Wells.

With Wells released by the Conference South club last week, McDonnell looked favourite to be handed the goalkeeper's jersey for next season – but things may not be that straightforward.

Stoke boss Jason Bristow explained: "Joe came into the team on merit at the end of the season and proved that he is a good goalkeeper. His performances raised a bit of awareness of him, so there are other clubs looking at him as well. "We have got to do the right thing by Joe. We hope we can keep hold of him, but if not, we need to make sure he goes to a club where he can progress."

Several professional clubs are thought to be interested in signing McDonnell, who lives in Basingstoke and went to Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College.

However, Town would be due a fee for the goalkeeper which could allow them to negotiate a loan deal if

he does move on.

Wells was among eight players allowed to leave the north Hampshire club. He was accompanied through the exit door by Ross Adams, Adam Green, Wes Daly, Neil Barrett, Kezie Ibe and ex-Eastleigh pair Robbie Matthews and Jordace Holder-Spooner.

The departure of Daly, who has since joined Conference South new boys Hemel Hempstead Town, was perhaps the biggest surprise – not least because the playmaker was made captain last summer.

"We tried to get a new contract sorted out for Wes, but he had other offers," said Bristow. "When the chance to join Hemel Hempstead came up, he decided it was time for a new challenge."

Stags line up Cherries friendly

AFC TOTTON will welcome Eddie Howe's AFC Bournemouth to their Testwood Stadium base at the end of July.

The Cherries are expected to include a sprinkling of first-team squad members for the pre-season fixture on Wednesday, July 30 (7.45pm).

Totton's scheduled July 12 friendly at home to Gosport Borough has been cancelled, however, because of delays in pitch preparation. Efforts were made to re-arrange the game, but the clubs couldn't find a suitable alternative date.

The big winners at Totton's end-of-season award night were Luke Roberts (supporters' player), Zac Mouland (players' player) and skipper Rob Flocks (manager's player). The team and management were presented with the Bob Devoy Memorial Trophy.

PRE-SEASON FRIENDLIES 2014

Saturday, July 5: Blackfield & Langley v Gosport Borough, Winchester City v Sutton Utd.

Tuesday, July 8: Blackfield & Langley v Salisbury City, Bashley v Gosport Borough, Winchester City v Basingstoke Town.

Saturday, July 12: Blackfield & Langley v Fleet Town, Basingstoke Town v Yeovil Town, Hamworthy Utd v Wimborne Town.

Tuesday, July 15: Blackfield & Langley v AFC Totton, Sholing v Havant & Waterlooville, Winchester City v Fleet Town.

Saturday, July 19: AFC Stoneham v Romsey Town, Old Woodstock Town v Fareham Town, Poole Town v Gosport Borough, Salisbury City v Reading.

Tuesday, July 22: Basingstoke Town v Newport County, Laverstock & Ford v Fareham Town (7.30pm), Salisbury City v AFC Wimbledon, Sholing v Gosport Borough, Verwood Town v Wimborne Town.

Wednesday, July 23: Bemerton HH v Salisbury City.

Thursday, July 24: Weymouth v Romsey Town.

Friday, July 25: Poole Town v Wimborne Town.

Saturday, July 26: AFC Totton v Slough Town, Godalming Town v Sholing, QK Southampton v Romsey Town, Redditch Utd v Gosport Borough.

Tuesday, July 29: Bemerton HH v Sholing, Hungerford Town v Gosport Borough, Poole Town v Salisbury City.

Wednesday, July 30: AFC Totton v AFC Bournemouth XI.

Saturday, August 2: Arundel v Sholing, Salisbury City v Newport County, Wimborne Town v Gillingham Town.

● email details of your club's pre-season friendlies to echosport@dailyecho.co.uk.

Non-league Football

Carter deserves shot at higher league, says Sholing co-boss



DAVE FEAR

FEAR: WE COULDN'T HOLD MIKE BACK

Wendy Gee

wendy.gee@dailyecho.co.uk

NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

AS one of the main driving forces behind Sholing's incredibly successful youth and reserve team set-up, player development is what spurs Dave Fear on.

So there was no one more understanding about Mike Carter's decision to leave for Gosport Borough than the Boatmen's recently appointed co-manager.

Carter, a high-energy full back/midfielder, played a huge part in an unforgettable 2013/14 season for Sholing which ended in FA Vase and Sydenhams Premier Division glory.

He will be a huge loss to the Boatmen as they prepare to return to the Southern Division One South & West, but there was always a feeling at Portsmouth Road that he was destined to go higher and the last thing Fear would have wanted to do was stand in his way.

"We did have a chat with Mike and it would have been great if he'd stayed but we don't want to hold him back," he said.

"He's a loss for us and he's a good lad too, but he's different class and he deserves a shot at going higher."

"I think he'll do well at Gosport, he's got all the attributes if he gets the right breaks. Hopefully he'll have a good pre-season and will fit right in there."

"Mike's a real character who likes a good time, but he looks after himself as well. He didn't rest on his laurels at Sholing, he knew what was expected of him and performed every week. He could have taken the easy route and stayed, but he wants to progress."

"We won't have long to wait for



SHOLING EXIT: Mike Carter, left.

him to come back to Sholing. We're playing Gosport in a pre-season friendly on July 22!"

Carter comes from good stock having played for Southampton from the age of ten to 16.

Adam Lallana, Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain and Gareth Bale were among his contemporaries, but he left when they were giving out scholarships, convinced he wasn't going to be offered one.

Speaking in the matchday programme ahead of Sholing's 1-0 FA Vase triumph over West Auckland at Wembley earlier this month, Carter recalled: "By the time I did

leave Saints, I wasn't enjoying my football as much as I would have liked."

"I remember speaking to my dad and he said if I wasn't enjoying it then it was time to look to do something else."

"I suppose I needed to fall in love with the game again, which I've really done at Sholing."

"There are always people watching, so it's really just a case of putting in strong performances whenever I play."

One of those people watching was Gosport boss Alex Pike who is looking to add pace, youth and dynamism

to the squad that finished 12th on their Conference South debut.

Joining Carter in the Privett Park arrivals lounge are young former AFC Totton striker Jack Odam, who captained Bashley in the Southern Premier Division last term, and former Romsey Town midfielder Stuart Green from Moneyfields.

Offsetting that youth with experience is 32-year-old ex-Eastleigh and Basingstoke frontman Robbie Matthews, who has been around the Conference block with Salisbury, Crawley, Forest Green and Kidderminster.

Non-league News

Pyatt returns to Lymo
JOHN Pyatt has made a sentimental return as manager of Sydenhams Premier Division club Lymington Town.

Pyatt, who led Town to Wessex League Cup success in 2006/07, has since been boss of Brockenhurst and, more recently, co-manager of Bashley.

He will be joined at Southampton Road by Nick Jones (assistant manager), Warren Kenna (player/coach) and ex-Christchurch No2 Bob Sullivan.

Lymington were on course for a ten-ten finish last season, but fell away to 14th after ex-Portsmouth and Lymington & New Milton midfielder Stuart Doling stepped down as manager in March.

Walker back in Town
MICHAEL Walker is back at Poole Town after a nightmare year at Weymouth.

Having left the Dolphins to sign a two-year deal for the Terras last summer, the towering centre-back was beset by injury problems during pre-season and was transfer-listed in December following a dispute with the club's board. He was consigned to the sidelines for much of the second half of the campaign before cutting short his stint at the Bob Lucas Stadium by mutual consent last week.

That ill-fated stint saw Walker's credentials questioned in certain quarters, but Poole boss Tom Killick said: "When I spoke to Michael, it struck me that he had been stung by the criticism and how things had panned out for him at Weymouth. He seems quite angry about it all and determined to put it right. 'I think he wants to prove a point.'"

Revenue help wanted
SYDENHAMS Premier Division club Bournemouth Poppies require a commercial manager.

The role will include negotiations with the club's current sponsors as well as sourcing new forms of revenue and sponsorship principally within, but not limited to, the Bournemouth area.

Applicants should have experience in commercial advertising and sponsorship.

The role will be paid on a commission basis with good rates available.

To apply send a CV to club secretary Mike Robbins at bournemouthpoppiesfc@gmail.com.



Macey ends reign as United boss

JIM Macey, the man who led Whitchurch United back into the Sydenhams Premier elite last season, has quit his Longmeadow post.

United's most successful manager, left, tendered his resignation last week for personal reasons, ending a four-year reign at the club.

Macey's departure comes as a big blow to the north Hampshire outfit who finished runners-up to Wessex One championships Brockenhurst in 2012/13 and enjoyed their best ever FA Cup run.

After a fantastic start to last season – including knocking Eastleigh's reserves out of the

Hampshire FA Senior Cup – they fell away slightly but finished a none too shabby 13th.

While admitting the Whitchurch committee were "saddened" to lose Macey's services, chairman Brian Jackman said they fully understood his reasons for going.

He said: "Whitchurch United would like to place on record our utmost appreciation for everything Jim has done for the club since his appointment – especially his achievements in leading the club to promotion from the Sydenhams Division One in 2013.

"In addition he guided the team on the best

FA Cup run and won several awards for club-of-the-month.

"He has ended his time with Whitchurch helping them to finish mid-table in their first season in the Premier Division.

"The club would like to wish Jim the best of luck in his future endeavours and will now begin the search for a replacement manager."

Anyone interested in the post should forward their CV to chairman.wufc@gmail.com or call Brian Jackman on 07717 583526 to arrange an interview.

SEE BACK PAGE FOR MORE NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

Non-league Football

Millers want boss who can 'muck in'

TOTTON & Eling chairman Angus Steel says the club need "a bit more than just a football manager" to replace departed duo Stuart and Matt Hussey.

The Sydenhams Premier Division outfit have already had several enquiries – including some from former Millers players – for the vacant post.

"A number of ex-players have rung me and I've had several other calls," said Steel.

"We'll probably get half a dozen people in for a chat and see what they've got to offer the club.

"We'll choose someone best suited to the way Totton & Eling is run. We need a bit more than just a manager, we need someone who can muck in."

Since succeeding Ed Holmes in the chair last Christmas, Steel has worked closely with the Husseys to keep the Millers afloat both on and off the pitch.

"It's sad to see Stu and Matt go," he said. "There has been a lot of wrangling behind the scenes which can be destabilising for the football team and I thought they did a very good job under the circumstances.

"I've never been involved in a club that's lost 7-0 before but I can understand why it happens. When the chairman goes and you lose people upstairs, it affects the team.

"Matt and Stu got us through to the end of the season and only ever did good for the club. I'd like to say thank you and good luck to them."

Steel himself is staying put and has positive plans in the pipeline having got the Millers on a stable financial footing.

"I've managed to get the club out of debt, I've got some sponsors coming in and we've got a lovely ground," he said.

"What we need now is a few more people helping out as volunteers and a good, hard-working manager who will muck in as well as run the team.

"I've got some sponsors coming in and we're going to build a bar this summer for hospitality after games." When T&E first moved in at Little Testwood Farm in 2010 they had to decamp to the local pub after games.

Since 2011 they have used the bar of their Southern League neighbours AFC Totton but have had no means of generating income of their own.

"I've already got the money to build a bar and I've been to see the town clerk at Totton & Eling Town Council," Steel explained. "We'll build a temporary log cabin to start with which will hopefully generate a bit of income to keep the club going.

"We're taking on a veterans' side who will play at the ground every other week and these boys like a few beers after games.

"We also get quite a few walkers going past on their way to Testwood Lakes, so it could be used by the local community."

Anyone interested in the vacant T&E manager's post can contact Steel at 208gus@gmail.com.

Brothers go their separate footballing ways

THEY'VE managed together at Winchester City, Lympington Town and Totton & Eling. But for the foreseeable future, brothers Stuart and Matt Hussey will be living separate footballing lives.

With business and a new baby to concentrate on, older brother Matt is taking a temporary break from the game.

Stuart, meanwhile, is preparing for a new chapter in his career, helping out on the coaching side with FA Vase/Sydenhams Premier double winners Sholing.

A former Boatmen's player, the younger Hussey has been invited to work under new managers Mick Marsh and Dave Fear as Sholing gear up for a return to the Southern League Division One South & West.

Although still only 33, the former striker has a vast amount of experience to draw on having spent time with Derby County,

Portsmouth and Bristol City in his teens. He played Southern League football for Bashley and has spent years playing, coaching and managing on the Wessex circuit.

Stuart who, along with Matt, has just quit Sydenhams Premier outfit Totton & Eling, said: "I've had a meeting with Feary and Marshy and I've been given no specific role yet, but I'm joining the first-team coaching staff working particularly with the attacking players.

"It suits me because I only live a minute from Sholing's ground and the time's right to do something different.

"Irrespective of the Sholing offer, it would have been 50-50 whether I stayed at Totton & Eling.

"I had another offer to join the Moneyfields management team with Miles Rutherford and (former Bashley teammate) Graeme Gee and

I think (T&E top scorer) Dougie Rowe will be signing for them.

"If I hadn't had the Sholing offer, I can't say for sure whether I'd have carried on at T&E or not. We had to build three sides there in one season and you can only take so many knocks. "Matt's not walking away from football forever. He's still got a lot of hunger, he just needs a bit of time out.

"For me, I'm looking forward to a new challenge at Sholing and will give Feary and Marshy my 100 per cent backing.

"I appreciate them and (Sholing chairman) Dave Diaper offering me the role and I'll support them in any way I can.

"It's a great opportunity to join a club who have just got promoted and won the FA Vase." Ex-Saints and Bournemouth striker Puckett is also discussing a possible coaching post with the Boatmen.



BREAK: Matt Hussey.

TOTTON WOULD HAVE FALLEN APART WITHOUT US - HUSSEY

Departing boss hails professionalism of management team and club chairman

DEPARTING co-boss Stuart Hussey believes Totton & Eling would "fallen apart" last season but for the loyalty and professionalism of the management team and the arrival of chairman Angus Steel.

Hussey, his brother and co-boss Matt and coach Dave Puckett are all moving on this summer after 16 months at Millers Park, writes **WENDY GEE**.

By his own admission, the younger Hussey, pictured right, has not particularly enjoyed his time at T&E, but he feels an overwhelming sense of pride at seeing the job through under the most trying of circumstances.

Working against a backdrop of behind-the-scenes upheavals and a huge turnover of players, the Husseys and Puckett somehow managed to steer the club to Sydenhams Premier Division safety with four crucial wins in their last nine league games.

Plagued by player injuries and unavailability, relegation looked inevitable at one stage and, with no social facilities at Millers Park, it was doubly difficult to keep team spirit high.

But the Husseys soldiered on in the face of adversity and, together with Steel - who

replaced former chairman Ed Holmes at the helm - they managed to pull off 'mission impossible.'

"It's the lowest finish (18th) we've ever had, but it's the hardest we've ever worked," said Stuart, the younger of the Hussey brothers.

"We kept professionalism high and did all we could to get the best possible squad out for every game and I believe that's what kept us up.

"Anyone who knows anything about T&E knows what a difficult job it is and we leave there proud of what we've done.

"The chairman Angus Steel is a good mate and we part on good terms and wish him and the club well.

"If it hadn't been for myself, Matt and Dave sticking around and Angus coming in, I honestly don't think there would have been a Totton & Eling. It would have fallen apart."

The Husseys have made two or three suggestions to Steel about a possible replacement and believe that enthusiasm and hard work will be key qualifications.

"T&E need someone as hungry as I was when I took the job last year," said Stuart.

"Getting a team together and keeping the camaraderie going is a difficult job.

"And it's not easy going into (neighbours) AFC Totton's bar after games, not for any bad reason but because it doesn't belong to the club.

"If someone were to ask me if I enjoyed my time at T&E I'd have to say no. But did I enjoy working with Matt, Dave, Angus and the other people that helped us out there, then yes.

"I'm extremely proud of the job we did, which was probably the hardest we've had in management.

"I genuinely feel it's an achievement for T&E just to have stayed in the league and for us to have stuck by the club all season when people kept telling us they couldn't believe we were still there.

"It's hard to walk away because we got entwined with the club. Not only did we manage the team but we contributed financially as well and brought the family along to help out on match days.

"But we can walk away incredibly proud of the effort and commitment we've shown.

"The quality of the expertise we had to offer was probably wasted on some of the players who couldn't commit to the club. But that's taking nothing away from those lads who did show commitment and fought hard to keep us in the league.

"At one point, I was convinced we were going to be relegated."



SURVIVAL: Action from Totton & Eling's (yellow) league game against Winchester City last month. The Millers came on strong at the end of the season to ensure they remained in the top flight of the Sydenhams League.

Non-league Football

AUSTIN BACKED TO BE PREMIER LEAGUE STAR



PLAY-OFF FINAL VICTORY: Queens Park Rangers' Charlie Austin, top.

MICKY Hubbard has tipped former Poole Town teammate Charlie Austin to light up the Premier League next season.

Ex-Dolphin Austin – scorer of 64 goals in 57 appearances for the then Sydenhams – Wessex League club – was part of the QPR side that defeated Derby County 1-0 in the Championship play-off final at Wembley last weekend.

And Hubbard, who travelled to north London to watch his friend, insisted Austin's remarkable rise, via Swindon Town and Burnley, was far from over – and could even peak with an England call-up.

"It's unbelievable to think he'll be playing against most of my heroes next season," marvelled the Hamworthy United midfielder.

"When you're playing in the Wessex, I think

most people think their dream of turning pro has gone, but when Charlie got his chance he never looked back.

"I think he will score goals in the Premier League. Charlie is one of those players who, in the right team and with the right chances, knows where the net is.

"There's no reason why he can't do well.

"QPR are a good side and Charlie's got enough people round him with good experience to help him push on again.

"He's one of those lads that has a drive that others haven't when they get to a certain stage. He seems to have that desire to carry on again and I can't see him stopping.

"He wants to be the main man. He goes out and scores goals and makes the headlines.

"His next goal now is probably playing for England. It seems mad saying that, but he's at that level where that has to be his next goal."

Softley's sacking shock

DEJECTED Jeff Softley said he was "shocked" to be told in a 30-second phone call that he had been sacked as Downton manager.

Softley endured a difficult 2013/14 season with the Robins, finishing second-bottom of the Sydenhams Premier Division.

For the majority of the campaign he was left managing a depleted squad as injuries and missing players took their toll.

But after eight seasons in control, Softley – one of the league's most popular managers – has struggled to come to terms with being axed in the briefest of phone calls.

Softley, who has been replaced at the helm by former Downton and Bemerton Heath Harlequins goalkeeper Colin Hopkins, told *The Pink's* sister paper, *The*



SACKED: Jeff Softley.

Salisbury Journal: "I did have a bad feeling about my future when I was in the bar after the last game of the season. But I was shocked to be sacked over a short phone call and not even be pulled in for a meeting.

"I'd already been in the process of sealing a sponsor for next season – I'm just

very disappointed.

"The lads have been good, calling and texting me to thank me for my time as manager. Fellow league coaches have also been in contact."

Softley, a former Bemerton HH coach, led Downton to the Sydenhams One title in 2010/11 and secured a sixth-placed top-flight finish – the highest in Robins' history – the following season. He also delivered three Salisbury Hospital Cups to Wick Lane.

Despite his disappointment he is keen to stay in management, stating: "I don't want to be out of football yet."

New Downton boss Hopkins will be assisted by budding coach Jack Brooks as he looks to steer the relegated Wiltshire club back into the Wessex elite.

Non-league News

Walker backed to be captain marvel

NATHAN Walker has been handed the Dorchester Town captain's armband following the departure of Mark Jermyn.

Manager Phil Simkin, pictured below, said he had "no hesitation" in making the central defender his skipper after Jermyn left for Southern Premier Division rivals Poole Town last week.

Walker also captained Hamworthy United when Simkin was in charge at the Sydenhams Premier outfit before moving to the Avenue Stadium.

"He was captain for me at Hamworthy when he was 19 and is ideally suited for it. I'm sure he will take to it well," said Simkin.

"Nathan is a big player for us. We're building the side around him and I have every faith in him to be a very good captain, on and off the pitch."

Jake Smeeton, who skippered the team in Jermyn's absence last season, is Simkin's vice-captain for the

Maggies' first campaign back in the Southern Premier Division following relegation from the Conference South.

Jermyn, meanwhile, says his belief in Poole's promotion prospects helped subdue the emotion of his Dorchester departure.

The 33-year-old defender/midfielder played more than 600 games in 13 seasons of unbroken service at the Avenue Stadium, but said Dolphins boss Tom Killick had quickly focused his mind on next season's target – achieving Conference South football.

Jermyn, who has known Killick for several years, said: "As soon as I walked away from our first meeting I got a real feeling for what he was trying to put across. He was very open and honest about his ambitions for the club.

"Last season was a struggle for me. Dorchester were getting battered more weeks than I would care to remember, so I am looking forward to a fresh start and pushing for promotion.

"I am not silly. I have done my homework and the framework is there to push on at Poole.

"You can see everything is geared towards promotion."



TURN TO BACK PAGE FOR MORE NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

Family matters at the Ageas Bowl

HAMPSHIRE will introduce family attractions to The Ageas Bowl in a bid to sell more tickets for the third Test between England and India.

Extra seating has been made available to cater for demand on the first day (Sunday, July 27), which will increase the ground's capacity to 19,000. But Hampshire still have many tickets available for days two and three, due partly to the unique scheduling of the ground's second five-day, which will be England's first home Test to begin on a Sunday.

Hampshire are hoping to capitalise on the fact the match will be played at the beginning of the summer holidays.

Commercial director Stuart Robertson, pictured, said:

"The Sunday sales are going great but we've only sold around half the tickets for days two and three, which aren't natural days for cricket fans to watch Test cricket."

"People are used to watching the second and third days of a Test on a Friday and Saturday so we need to be innovative – and we want more families to come to Test cricket."

"Bearing in mind it's the school holidays we want to make the Test experience more family-friendly without detracting from the cricket for the purist."

"It can be difficult for children to maintain concentration for six hours so we'll also have plenty for them to do."

"We've consulted widely with other attractions in the area, undertaken research and also spoken directly to some of our junior members to ask them what entertainment they would like to see."

"The results have been insightful and I think both parents, but especially children, will be excited with the kinds of entertainment and experiences we'll have on offer."

"There'll be climbing walls, cricket coaching, speed bowling nets, stilt walkers, magicians and laser quest."

"It'll be a great way to start the summer holidays."

Adult tickets are available from £45- £65, while Under-16s are £10 each (more information at ageasbowl.com).



Hampshire Cricket Spotlight

VINCE'S ENGLAND CALL-UP IS ONLY MATTER OF TIME

IT IS surely only a matter of time before James Vince becomes Hampshire's latest England player.

For many years now Hampshire have been polishing this gem of a batsman, a contemporary of Joe Root who will surely join his former England Lions teammate in the senior side in all formats.

Vince's quality was apparent from an early age and in my case the first time I saw him bat, on his first-class debut against Nottinghamshire at The Rose Bowl five years ago.

A brisk 75 in the second innings, full of the flair we have become used to, could not stop Hampshire from losing by 191 runs.

But it was immediately apparent that this was a class act

Simon Walter

simon.walter@dailyecho.co.uk

CRICKET REPORTER



whose reputation as a stylish batsman of the highest class was fully warranted.

Vince is not so much a batsman as an artiste whose Gunn & Moore blade has painted some captivating strokes on the LV County Championship canvas for several seasons now.

The comparison with Michael Vaughan is a good one but has been repeated so often it has become a cliché. I prefer the description once given to me by his former Chippenham CC captain: a right-handed David Gower.

That may flatter him a little but it is not far off. Mark Robinson

has described Vince's batsmanship as "regal" and he may well prove to have a little more steel than Gower.

The difference over the last season and a bit has been his consistency, a more disciplined approach that comes with experience and a greater awareness of where his off stump is.

His T20 form has also improved, which is saying something. Before last night, he was the leading run scorer in the T20 Blast, only one player in the country (Worcestershire's Daryl Mitchell) has scored more first-class runs than his 657 at 93 and no-one with more than 200 LV County Championship runs has sustained a strike rate to rival his 80 per 100 balls. 'Fluent' does not do Vince justice.

It was difficult to avoid the fact that he was batting himself closer

to an England

debut at

Merchant Taylors' School last Sunday.

His second 25-ball fifty in three days in the T20 Blast was made as Michael Carberry et al were being dismissed for 99 by Sri Lanka at The Oval.

The inevitable England debut is drawing near. Will it be this season? Quite possibly. The ODI series against India in August would be a good time to blood him.

England have been without a top-four X-factor post-Pietersen but Vince could provide it. He once kept KP out of Hampshire's side when still in his teens and may yet be his long-term replacement in the England side. Enjoy him at The Ageas Bowl while you can.

Hampshire to continue golden start?

HAMPSHIRE will look to continue their most impressive start to an LV County Championship season for nine years when Derbyshire visit the Ageas Bowl over the next four days.

Unbeaten in six games, which include three wins after back-to-back 22-point successes against Glamorgan and Leicestershire this month, Hampshire have started the season with form to compare with their other promotion campaigns, in 2001 and 2004.

It is hard to find fault when they have a form guide that reads DWDDWW.

Not since promotion under Shane Warne a decade ago, when Hampshire began with four wins from six games (WWDDWLW), have the county started so well.

Hampshire also started positively in 2005, when life back in the first division was boosted by the presence of Kevin Pietersen in the top order for

six of the first seven games (WDWDWLW).

Pietersen only played one more first-class match for Hampshire before joining Surrey five years later.

But even with Warne as captain, Hampshire were still prone to some sizeable defeats.

In 2004, they were brought back down to earth by an innings and 44 runs, by Nottinghamshire at The Rose Bowl, and their only other loss that season was by 384 runs at home to Essex.

The following season they went on to claim the runner's-up spot, their highest position for 20 years, but a ten-wicket defeat to Warwickshire at Stratford-upon-Avon in May, with Pietersen and Warne in the side, was a salutary wake-up

call. What makes this Hampshire side stand out is its consistency.

They may only be playing in the second division but Hampshire are a stronger all-round unit than they were under Warne, with all bases well covered.

Under Jimmy Adams, pictured below, they are enjoying their best start since going up under Robin Smith in 2001, when they only lost two games all season after beginning with an eight-match unbeaten run.

It would be no surprise to see them surpass that in June, despite Derbyshire's visit today being followed by a difficult game away to Saeed Ajmal-inspired Worcestershire next week.

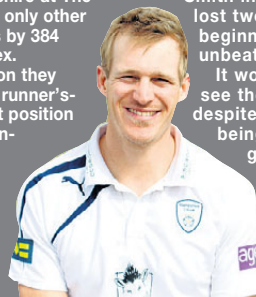
But with Kyle Abbott likely to miss matches in July and August, as

well as the last two due to his Champions League commitments with the Sunfoil Dolphins, they will be doing well to stay unbeaten all season, as they did when they last won the Championship in 1973 (they finished the 20-game season with ten wins and ten draws after beginning with DWDDWW).

Only once before have they come close to matching that, albeit with a 17-match unbeaten run that included 12 draws in 1985.

Hampshire's six games so far this season include a draw at Derby, where Derbyshire drew another rain-affected match against Gloucestershire this week.

With Derbyshire's overseas star, Shivnarine Chanderpaul, away with the West Indies, Hampshire will hope to record a third successive Championship win for the first time in six years.



MORE CRICKET NEWS ONLINE: WWW.DAILYECHO.CO.UK

Hampshire Cricket Spotlight



IN TOP FORM:
James Vince.

HAMPSHIRE FIXTURES

April

- 6 Worcestershire (CC)Ageas Bowl
Hampshire 263 (Ervine 93, Adams 67) and 27-1 drew with Worcestershire 350-7 (Coles 3-58)
- 13 Gloucestershire (CC)Bristol
Hampshire 422 (J Vince 144, A Wheeler 82) and 215-2 (M Carberry 100no, J Vince 58no) beat Gloucestershire 302 (K Abbott 5-67, J Tomlinson 4-68) and 322 by eight wickets.
- 20 Derbyshire (CC)Derby
Hampshire 328 (W Smith 70, J Gattling 67) and 236-3 (J Adams 84, J Vince 50no, M Carberry 47) drew with Derbyshire 399 (K Abbott 4-84).
- 27 Surrey (CC)Ageas Bowl
Hampshire 400-6 (J Vince 156, J Adams 65) drew with Surrey 99-2.

May

- 5 Cardiff MCCU (Uni)Ageas Bowl
Hampshire 383-8 dec (L McManus 108) and 212-3 dec (L McManus 106*) drew with Cardiff 173 all out and 165-4.
- 11 Glamorgan (CC)Ageas Bowl
Glamorgan 234 (S Ervine 3-36, M Coles 3-39, K Abbott 3-66) & 187 (J Tomlinson 3-40, K Abbott 3-43) lost to Hampshire 345 (M Carberry 66, L Dawson 64, J Vince 61) & 68-4 by 6 wickets.
- 16 Glamorgan (t20)Ageas Bowl
Glamorgan 161-7 (Briggs 3-23) beat Hampshire 151-6 by 10 runs.
- 18 Leicestershire (CC)Leicester
Hampshire 332-10 (Vince 70, Wheeler 57, Adams 40, Ervine 40, Abbott 40) & 338-9 dec (Smith 46, Gattling 44, Vince 56, Wheeler 46, Coles 83) beat Leicestershire 296-10 (Abbott 4-55, Tomlinson 4-49) & 96-10 (Briggs 4-13, Coles 3-24) by 278 runs.
- 23 Sussex (t20)Hove
Hampshire 177-5 (Vince 52) beat Sussex 159-5 by 18 runs.
- 25 Middlesex (t20)Northwood
Hampshire 198-2 (Vince 68, Shah 49) beat Middlesex 151-9 (Briggs 3-20) by 47 runs.

- 30 Essex (t20)Ageas Bowl

June

- 1 Derbyshire (CC)Ageas Bowl
5 Kent (t20)Ageas Bowl
8 Worcestershire (t20)New Road
13 Somerset (t20)Taunton
15 Essex (CC)Ageas Bowl
20 Gloucs (t20)Ageas Bowl
25 Glamorgan (t20)Cardiff
27 Surrey (t20)Oval
28 Surrey (CC)Oval

July

- 4 Kent (t20)Canterbury
6 Somerset (t20)Ageas Bowl
7 Gloucs (CC)Ageas Bowl
11 Middlesex (t20)Ageas Bowl
13 Essex (CC)Colchester
18 Sussex (t20)Ageas Bowl
22 Essex (t20)Chelmsford
26 Derbyshire (RLC)Derby
27 Lancashire (RLC)Old Trafford
31 Gloucs (RLC)Bristol

August

- 6 Leicestershire (RLC)Ageas Bowl
8 Northants (RLC)Ageas Bowl
11 Wores (RLC)Ageas Bowl
13 Essex (RLC)Chelmsford
14 Sri Lanka A (Tour)Ageas Bowl
15 Kent (CC)Canterbury
21 Yorkshire (RLC)Ageas Bowl
31 Leicestershire (CC)Ageas Bowl

September

- 15 Kent (CC)Ageas Bowl
23 Glamorgan (CC)Cardiff

Key: CC = county championship. t20 = NatWest t20 Blast. RLC = Royal London Cup (50 overs).

Local Cricket Spotlight



Full of Easton promise ...

IT'S two wins from two games for United Services, who were forced to concede their Southern Electric Premier League status to play Hampshire League County Division 1 cricket this summer.

Lack of personnel to run colts teams – fielding junior age group sides is a prerequisite for SPL accreditation purposes – led to US dropping down.

But under Mark Easton's captaincy, US have begun brightly with an extras-assisted win at St Cross Symondians III preceding last weekend's ten-wicket triumph over visiting Hook & Newnham Basics.

The only County 1 game played – only nine of the scheduled 27 have actually been completed in the first three weeks of the season – saw Hook's 156 all out (Huw Jones 4-27) reduced to a revised target of 106 from 26 overs which US greedily polished off with a few

overs to spare.

Royal Navy captain Mark Toogood was literally too good for Hook, cracking an unbeaten 73.

Easton believes US can push on from their encouraging start.

"We lost a number of senior players when we dropped down to the Hampshire League and we weren't sure how we would fare, but our early games have shown we can be competitive."

"There's a terrific team spirit and everyone's in a positive frame of mind," he said.

But while United Services have twice got on to the field, a few miles north Purbrook's cricketers have yet to unpack their gear.

Their ground at Purbrook Heath is notoriously wet and even today's scheduled match against Rowledge II was in doubt.

All three Purbrook games so far have fallen to the wet weather.

Wilts wary of backlash

SOUTH Wilts are wary of a potential New Milton backlash as they prepare for tomorrow's ECB Royal London national club championship group semi-final tie at Bemerton, 1pm.

The Division 1 side ran South Wilts close in last year's Southern Electric t20 Cup semi-final, eventually losing by 17 runs.

"They are a decent side, probably one that will be in contention for the honours this season," warned James Hayward, who is free from Wiltshire commitments to play in the 45-over tie.

New Milton have made an encouraging start to the season, beating Hursley Park in their only league game, and knocking both Totton & Eling

and Sarisbury Athletic out of the national cup.

Tomorrow's winners will visit either Frocester or Potterne in the group final.

South Wilts: Morton, Abel, Mynott, Hawkins, Hayward, Cranch, R Pittman, S Pittman, Warner, Booth, Kidd, Richards, Duellier.

Havant, meanwhile, are facing a twin Horsham spin threat in their group semi-final tie at Havant Park.

Sussex prospect Will Beer and leg spinner Michael Munday – who took a staggering 66 wickets in the Sussex Premier League last year – are Horsham's key men.

Horsham beat Havant in the 2007 national semi-final before going on to beat Barnt Green and lift the Cockspur Cup at Lord's.

Lunchtime crunch time

VENTNOR face Sparsholt in a Southern Electric t20 Cup curtain raiser in the Steephill bowl tomorrow lunchtime, 1pm.

The first-round tie has been brought forward seven days to avoid clashing with Sparsholt's Village Cup county final at Hambledon.

Ventnor reached the Ageas Bowl final back in 2009, losing to Lymington, but crashed out to New Milton at the last eight stage last year.

Ventnor: M Holmes, M Eysle, T Friend, C Ridley, A Wilson, R Snell, B Duggan, H Galloway, N Westhorpe, O Mills, J Cheek, B Woodhouse and C Galloway.

Seven more ties are set

to be played on Sunday week, June 8, with Lymington's match against Totton & Eling at the Sports Ground arguably the pick of the ties.

Next Sunday's ties are: Andover v Fawley, Basingstoke & North Hants v Fair Oak, Hampshire Academy v Portsmouth & Southsea, Hartley Wintney v New Milton, Lymington v Totton & Eling, OTs & Romsey v Trojans, and Sarisbury Athletic.

The remaining six ties are set for June 15, with 2013 cup winners South Wilts and beaten finalists Burridge joining the fold on June 29.

The final is under the Ageas Bowl floodlights on Friday, August 15.



SPARSHOLT: Back (from left): Adam Gough, Tim Vokes, Alex Dille, Stuart Tognarelli, Jon Vokes, Lewis Dunford. Front: Tom Foster, Jayden Derosa, Andy Worth (captain), Ed Jenner, Steve Wright.

SPARSHOLT have created a somewhat bizarre record at the soggy start of the season.

While the wet weather has caused havoc right across the local league cricket spectrum with innumerable games being called off, Sparsholt have started all four of their SPL2 games, with two actually completed!

They beat Hartley Wintney in an opening day thriller, had OTs & Romsey on the run in their next match and then lost to Portsmouth.

Last Saturday, they were one of only two games to start and were 20-2 at Havant II when the rains returned.

Somewhat greedily, they have also played in the Davidslow Village Cup and are through to the county final.

CLUBS FACING CASH CRISIS

CRICKET club treasurers across the region are once again tearing their hair out as the rain falls, games are called off and revenue streams from match fees and bar income dry up.

With more than 60 per cent of matches in the Southern Electric Premier League postponed in the past month and the 20-division Hampshire League effectively washed out twice in three weeks, recreational cricket is facing another potential financial crisis.

It's nothing new: it happened in 2012 when hundreds of league games were wiped out by bad weather, **writes MIKE VIMPANY.**

Income for recreational cricket, crammed into its four-month summer window, is limited.

Unless clubs are lucky enough to have a sponsor, income is mainly down to the players to dig deep for £10 a match and boosting club coffers over the bar.

That's if they don't disappear straight



WATER TORTURE: South Wilts' waterlogged square at Bemerton typifies the scene at many local cricket grounds this month.

away into the sunset, as is the sad way of things these days!

Why don't sides stay around and socialise any more?

Surely it is part and parcel of the game we've enjoyed for many years.

In round figures, each washed out game represents £100 in lost match fee revenue alone and, if you are a club with three or four Saturday sides, like most in the Premier League, that represents a lot of cash – money never recovered.

Those clubs who still serve draft alcohol across their bars will also have caught a cold as stored, un-drunk beer soon goes stale and will end up being tipped down the sink.

The problems caused by the wet weather don't end there, of course.

There's been precious little junior cricket played so far – again no match fees, albeit small in comparison, but snacks and drinks don't get sold across the bar and profits take another hit.

But while income drops dramatically, bills still have to be paid – all clubs having to shell out a significant amount of money on league fees, cricket balls and insurances before a ball is even bowled!

Cricket and the wet weather are most uneasy bedfellows ...

Havant top all-time SEPL table

	P	W	D	T	L	Ttl	Ave
Havant	203	127	30	2	44	3304	16.27
BAT Sports/Totton & Eling	199	117	17	0	65	3019	15.17
South Wilts	195	104	25	2	64	2887	14.8
Hampshire Academy	173	86	21	0	66	2433	14.06
Bournemouth	192	95	30	1	66	2685	13.98
Bashley (Rydal)	190	88	28	2	72	2557	13.45
St Cross Symondians	108	40	16	1	52	1277	11.82
Portsmouth	88	33	10	0	45	991	11.26
Ventnor	44	13	6	0	25	493	11.2
Lymington	78	28	4	1	45	860	11.02
Alton	117	38	14	0	65	1239	10.58
Calmore Sports	46	13	7	0	26	434	9.43
Andover	123	32	15	1	75	1148	9.33
Liphook & Ripsley	93	21	13	0	59	806	8.67
Burridge	31	7	5	0	19	259	8.5
Hursley Park	57	8	6	0	43	439	7.7
OTs & Romsey	15	2	1	0	12	96	6.4
Hungerford	15	2	1	0	12	87	5.8

SIX-TIMES champions Havant are predictably top of a fascinating composite points league table produced by Southern Electric Premier League statistician Mike Rose detailing every match since the inception of the competition in 2001.

Including this rainy season, Havant have won 127 of their 203 SPL fixtures and boast a healthy average of 16.27 points per match. BAT Sports (now Totton & Eling) won the title four times in six early years and lie second with a points average of 15.47.

In addition to nurturing a host of young players into county cricket, the Hampshire Academy have won just short of half their 173 games.

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BUNCHED UP: Runners at the start of the Ropley 10k.

Order no: 18545254



Order no: 18545280



Order no:
18545302

ROPLEY 10K FULL RESULTS			30	Mark Hewson	Unaffiliated	42:02.1	61	Kirsty Shannon	Hedge End RC	44:23.3	92	Tony Byrne	Yeovil Town Rrc	46:22.4	123	Steve Collard	Unaffiliated	48:56.0	
Pos	Name	Club	Time	31	Andrew Houson	Thorney RC	42:00.6	62	Bern O'connor	Alton	44:18.9	93	Michael Pearce	Alton	46:26.3	124	Jamie Woodfield	Unaffiliated	48:57.9
1	Julian Manning	Denmead	34:48.0	32	Richard Bailey	Winchester AC	42:08.8	63	William O'connor	Unaffiliated	44:19.2	94	Tony Hursey	Unaffiliated	46:17.7	125	Vicki Clarke	Farnham	49:12.1
2	Simon Gill	Unaffiliated	35:09.7	33	Thomas Sargent	Unaffiliated	42:02.9	64	Stuart Haig	Unaffiliated	44:34.9	95	Thomas Rands	Unaffiliated	46:28.0	126	Hanna Dahlgren	Unaffiliated	49:05.5
3	James Sawyer	Unaffiliated	35:49.4	34	Simon Delves	Chichester	42:18.7	65	Joe Bampton	Unaffiliated	44:41.0	96	Graeme Seal	Unaffiliated	46:44.2	127	Geoff Robinson	Unaffiliated	49:12.9
4	Matt Shatton	Unaffiliated	36:25.6	35	Andrew Caldwell	Carn	42:27.9	66	Michael O'connor	Unaffiliated	44:39.6	97	Anita Crawley	Denmead	46:50.2	128	Kevin Voller	Blackwater Valley	49:17.1
5	Peter Collins	Portsmouth	36:34.7	36	Lawrence Bookham	Hart	42:40.1	67	Daniel Nelson	Unaffiliated	44:44.4	98	Derek Smith	Winchester AC	46:56.6	129	David Winch	Unaffiliated	49:27.6
6	Pete Turrell	Unaffiliated	37:13.5	37	Nicholas Ayling	Portsmouth	42:44.3	68	Brian Hughes	Unaffiliated	45:01.1	99	James Bourke	Unaffiliated	46:43.1	130	Christopher Bailey	Unaffiliated	49:30.9
7	Iain cross	Southampton AC	37:17.5	38	Philip Scrase	Alton	42:49.1	69	Paul Oxley	Unaffiliated	44:58.0	100	Mike Hodges	Eastleigh RC	47:04.2	131	Walter Colautti	Unaffiliated	49:41.5
8	Brian Brackstone	Unaffiliated	37:21.2	39	David Allen	Unaffiliated	42:47.7	70	Daniel Foster	Stubbington	45:03.7	101	James Edwards	Unaffiliated	46:58.1	132	Adrian Keeble	Unaffiliated	49:45.1
9	Adrian Piddington	Stubbington	37:50.4	40	Ian Higby	Unaffiliated	42:54.6	71	Rupert Howell	Unaffiliated	45:09.1	102	Tim Crumpton	Stubbington	47:20.9	133	Peter Chapman	Unaffiliated	49:45.5
10	Tom Frost	Unaffiliated	38:45.2	41	John McKenzie	Hardley	42:55.4	72	Thomas Chapman	Unaffiliated	45:07.8	103	Oliver Bampton	Unaffiliated	47:31.5	134	Michael Cutting	Windle Valley	49:42.7
11	Paul Hiles	Denmead	39:02.9	42	Anneliese Shaw	Chichester	43:07.3	73	Jason Lintott	Unaffiliated	45:11.4	104	Murray Thompson	Unaffiliated	47:36.3	135	Andrew Robson	Unaffiliated	49:43.3
12	Richard Bailey	Portsmouth	39:05.1	43	Andy Cross	Unaffiliated	43:01.1	74	Stuart Knight	Liss	45:19.6	105	Robert Cornwell	Fleet AC	47:39.2	136	Katie Brencn	Unaffiliated	49:50.0
13	Mark Eaton	Stubbington	39:08.8	44	Colin Gardner	Gosport	43:06.2	75	Steve Armstrong	Liss	45:21.1	106	Dave Porter	Unaffiliated	47:45.5	137	Diana Jordan	Unaffiliated	49:53.4
14	James Clarke	Farnham	39:24.3	45	Shaun Bucknole	Unaffiliated	43:16.3	76	Neil Thomas	Achilles Club	45:20.5	107	Sophie Waterfield	Unaffiliated	47:29.6	138	Karen Wardle	New Forest	50:05.6
15	Mike Harper	Stubbington	39:42.0	46	Greg Clarke	Unaffiliated	43:13.6	77	Lidia Browning	Eastleigh RC	45:22.8	108	Saba Holt	Reading	47:36.0	139	Nick Bond	Unaffiliated	50:06.6
16	Guy Brown	Southampton AC	40:26.9	47	Stu Lavalette	Liss	43:16.5	78	Keth Woolven	Fareham	45:19.3	109	Lisa Williamson	Unaffiliated	47:53.8	140	Kevin Young	Unaffiliated	50:06.5
17	Alan Graham	Unaffiliated	40:42.1	48	Mark Harris	Unaffiliated	43:05.0	79	Richard Bacon	Unaffiliated	45:12.2	110	George Waldburg	Unaffiliated	47:59.4	141	keith gill	Unaffiliated	50:16.3
18	Darren Foy	Lordshill	40:42.8	49	Julie Humphries	Unaffiliated	43:22.8	80	David Townson	Unaffiliated	45:15.0	111	Peter Terry	Unaffiliated	47:57.8	142	Lily Venus	Unaffiliated	50:07.5
19	Philip Cox	Unaffiliated	40:57.7	50	Matt Kurtson	Winchester AC	43:25.1	81	Laura Lizier	Unaffiliated	45:24.4	112	Rob Boon	Unaffiliated	48:06.5	143	Gary Mcawley	Denmead	50:38.4
20	Jeff Scarle	Lordshill	41:06.3	51	Stuart Hiscock	Stubbington	43:23.2	82	Steve Goodwin	Winchester AC	45:29.7	113	Peter Adams	Unaffiliated	48:05.1	144	Dave Mowson	Unaffiliated	50:29.6
21	Tim Holmes	Fleet AC	41:12.1	52	Julian Spickemell	Unaffiliated	43:41.1	83	Edward Jones	Unaffiliated	45:37.7	114	Tracy Pireth	Unaffiliated	48:39.3	145	Sareeth McShane	Unaffiliated	50:38.2
22	Derek Powles	Portsmouth	41:11.5	53	Michael Coulstock	Unaffiliated	43:29.0	84	Tony Brackstone	Unaffiliated	45:39.8	115	Angela Brown	Unaffiliated	48:42.1	146	Ronald Barnett	Unaffiliated	50:38.0
23	Andrew Stockwell	Stubbington	41:16.0	54	John Goshling	Unaffiliated	43:42.3	85	John Smith	New Forest	45:42.8	116	Steve Bailey	Unaffiliated	48:21.5	147	Luke Addison	Unaffiliated	50:35.1
24	Ian Richardson	Southampton AC	41:23.5	55	Gramham Reeves	Unaffiliated	43:40.0	86	Diego Maldonado	Unaffiliated	45:46.1	117	Andy Coles	Liss	48:39.0	148	Nichola Gordon-Jones	Un	50:38.6
25	Steve Wardle	New Forest	41:30.8	56	Tim Knight	Unaffiliated	43:51.2	87	Charles Ramseyer	Unaffiliated	45:43.6	118	Robert Stewart	Unaffiliated	48:45.2	149	Kelly Venus	Unaffiliated	50:43.5
26	Fiona Lynskey	New Forest	41:43.8	57	Frank Crockford	Unaffiliated	43:35.3	88	Joanna Curtis	Winchester AC	45:55.6	119	Jim Armitage	Alton	48:48.0	150	Anna Gyllenkrok	Unaffiliated	50:58.9
27	William Pilgrim	Alton	41:50.0	58	Matthew Wilkinson	Unaffiliated	43:58.9	89	Geoff Howes	Thorney RC	45:57.5	120	Sean Collard	Unaffiliated	48:44.6	151	Caroline Chalk	Unaffiliated	50:59.0
28	Lynne Whitaker	Winchester AC	41:58.0	59	Martyn Shenton	Unaffiliated	43:48.7	90	Lisa Spratling	Unaffiliated	46:04.0	121	Mark Woodford	Unaffiliated	48:32.3	152	Alastair Marsh	Unaffiliated	51:06.0
29	Neil Bunday	Portsmouth	42:00.1	60	Victoria Smith	Fleet AC	44:11.9	91	Vanessa Lowe	Alton	46:17.6	122	Trevor Swann	Tone Zone	48:45.1	153	Gordon Abram	Unaffiliated	51:05.0

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+++ ROPLEY 10K PICTURE SPECIAL +++ ROPLEY 10K PICTURE SPECIAL +++



The main Mann

DENMEAD Striders' Julian Manning took top spot from more than 300 competitors at the Ropley 10k on Sunday.

Run in dry and sunny conditions at Ropley Recreation Ground, Manning eased to a comfortable win – coming home in 34mins 48secs with Simon Gill 21 seconds back in the runner-up spot and James Sawyer crossing the line in 35.49 or third place.

Fiona Lynskey was first home in the women's race, the New Forest runner coming home in 41.43. Fifteen seconds back from Lynskey was Winchester & District's Lynne Whitaker, with Chichester Runners' Annelise Shaw crossing the line in 43.07 for third place.

Pictures by Daily Echo photographer Stuart Martin



154 Warwick Long	Unaffiliated	51:45.9	185 Andy Lowe	Unaffiliated	53:51.3	216 Charles Dawson	Unaffiliated	56:31.0	248 Yvonne Lee	Unaffiliated	59:38.4	280 Geoffrey Hill	Unaffiliated	1:03:39.1
155 Matthew Firth	Unaffiliated	51:51.5	186 Graham Penn	Dunstable	54:11.5	217 Charles Corbett	Unaffiliated	56:31.1	249 Michelle Maddocks	Unaffiliated	59:44.9	281 Michael Ehrlich	Unaffiliated	1:03:59.8
156 James Jackson	Unaffiliated	51:34.6	187 Stephen Stamford	Unaffiliated	54:02.5	218 Emma Faulder	Unaffiliated	56:44.1	250 Thomas Maddocks	Unaffiliated	59:45.2	282 Amanda Bailey	Unaffiliated	1:04:16.9
157 Alison Jeary	Unaffiliated	52:01.8	188 Hattie Spray	Unaffiliated	54:16.2	219 Tamsin Stratton	Unaffiliated	56:33.3	251 Shawn Mycroft	Unaffiliated	59:44.1	283 Nicola Shenton	Unaffiliated	1:04:52.4
158 Cliff Hobby	Unaffiliated	51:51.0	189 Jack Hayward	Unaffiliated	54:18.9	220 Patrick Clancy	Unaffiliated	56:29.3	252 David Gore	Unaffiliated	59:51.0	284 Mark Finlarke	Unaffiliated	1:05:17.0
159 Jeremy Edwards	Unaffiliated	52:00.1	190 Joanna Harrop	Unaffiliated	54:01.7	221 Sarah Collings	Unaffiliated	56:34.8	253 Patricia Bacon	Unaffiliated	1:00:01.5	285 Helen Fry	Hedge End	1:05:17.0
160 Lindsay Limb	Unaffiliated	51:54.1	191 Sally-Jo Forrest	Unaffiliated	54:21.0	222 Richard Hawkins	Unaffiliated	56:47.5	254 Laura Knight	Liss	1:00:09.5	286 Kirsty Dixon	Unaffiliated	1:05:16.0
161 Nicholas Bell	Unaffiliated	51:55.3	192 Martin Taylor	Unaffiliated	54:14.3	223 Alex Morrad	Unaffiliated	56:47.0	255 Pamela Kemp	Unaffiliated	1:00:16.6	287 Kate Lawrence	Unaffiliated	1:05:16.4
162 Brenda Clarke	Unaffiliated	52:00.5	193 Mark Anderson	Unaffiliated	54:15.5	224 Lucy Sutton	Unaffiliated	57:00.2	256 Ian Guesi	Unaffiliated	1:00:19.4	288 Walter Thorpe	Unaffiliated	1:05:21.8
163 Lee Edwards	Unaffiliated	51:59.6	194 Lisa Fhithyan	Lordshill	54:24.0	225 Sally Ravenhill	Unaffiliated	57:15.2	257 Isabel Gardner	Portsmouth	1:00:15.2	289 Beverly Taylor	Unaffiliated	1:05:40.7
164 Clare Armstrong	Unaffiliated	52:06.5	195 Simon Beardsmore	Unaffiliated	54:30.4	226 Simon Mole	Unaffiliated	57:07.1	258 Anna Shaw	Hnts Cons	1:00:33.7	290 Cary Vardy	Lordshill	1:05:38.9
165 Kristina Byrne	Unaffiliated	52:21.2	196 Kevin Martin	Blackwater Valley	54:34.9	227 Sarah Keane	Unaffiliated	57:26.3	259 Anna Shaw	Unaffiliated	1:00:44.5	291 Julie Finklaire	Unaffiliated	1:06:06.8
166 Charlotte Mccoy	Unaffiliated	52:19.4	197 Andy Overy	Unaffiliated	54:32.8	228 Katherine Howells	Unaffiliated	57:20.8	260 Marianne De Giovanni	Un	1:00:53.1	292 Michael Othen	Unaffiliated	1:06:05.5
167 Hallam Foster	Unaffiliated	52:20.7	198 Philippa McClenaghan	Un	54:44.5	229 Danielle Kemp	Unaffiliated	57:41.6	261 Helen Lotery	Unaffiliated	1:00:52.3	293 James white	Unaffiliated	1:06:05.1
168 Lawrence Bilham	Unaffiliated	52:37.1	199 Charlotte Deadman	EastleighRc	55:06.6	230 Pete Lovett	Unaffiliated	57:30.7	262 Richard Nash Nehrebecki	Unaffiliated	1:00:59.5	294 Erika Meades	Unaffiliated	1:07:13.4
169 Ed Austin	Unaffiliated	52:38.2	200 Eunice Hoare	Stubbington	55:09.6	231 Sophie Horsford	Unaffiliated	57:51.8	263 Ken Hawkins	Unaffiliated	1:01:05.5	295 Rachael Neal	Unaffiliated	1:07:17.8
170 Steven Jones	Unaffiliated	52:41.5	201 Paul Roberts	Unaffiliated	54:58.9	232 Guy Hines-Dedman	Unaffiliated	57:57.8	264 Peter Novell	Unaffiliated	1:01:21.1	296 Sarah Bayless	Unaffiliated	1:07:16.1
171 Arrun Saunders	Unaffiliated	52:46.2	202 John Russell	Unaffiliated	55:13.0	233 Martin Smalley	Unaffiliated	57:41.3	265 Rachel Morrow	Unaffiliated	1:01:21.5	297 Stephanie Pett	Unaffiliated	1:07:22.6
172 Gary Fhithyan	Lordshill	52:37.7	203 Helen Blake	Unaffiliated	55:23.7	234 Tom Cooke	Unaffiliated	58:02.7	266 Rich Hoult	Unaffiliated	1:01:34.0	298 Julie Winter	Unaffiliated	1:07:23.7
173 Torstein Godeseth	Unaffiliated	52:43.4	204 Val Naylor	Unaffiliated	55:20.2	235 Tracey Paynter	Unaffiliated	58:09.1	267 Emily Bowes	Unaffiliated	1:01:33.9	299 Andrew Mann	Unaffiliated	1:07:40.0
174 James Koch	Unaffiliated	52:58.8	205 Claire Fewings	Unaffiliated	55:42.1	236 Wayne Dunford	Unaffiliated	58:19.9	268 Florence Moffat	Unaffiliated	1:01:43.0	300 Melanie Espin	Unaffiliated	1:08:02.2
175 Paul Liffon	Unaffiliated	53:05.1	206 Julian Venus	Unaffiliated	55:28.9	237 Barry Thomas	Unaffiliated	57:55.0	269 Kim Butler	Unaffiliated	1:01:39.9	301 Gemma Fleming	Unaffiliated	1:08:47.7
176 Andy Poole	Unaffiliated	53:07.2	207 Claire Deacon	Southampton RS	55:38.9	238 David Peters	Veterans Ac	58:09.8	270 Ruth Stratford	Unaffiliated	1:01:39.5	302 Charlotte Newell	Unaffiliated	1:09:42.0
177 Hazel Kenway	Alton	53:16.4	208 Alison Houghton	Unaffiliated	55:33.4	239 Robert Bewes	New Forest	58:02.9	271 Nick Bailey	Denmead	1:02:31.4	303 Ellie Mcchesney	Unaffiliated	1:10:14.3
178 Katherine Briggs	Stubbington	53:17.9	209 Chris Stevens	Unaffiliated	55:47.3	240 Maxine Harris	Unaffiliated	58:31.9	272 Jeff Deacon	Eastleigh Rc	1:02:18.2	304 Hannah Rodgers	Unaffiliated	1:13:17.7
179 Joanna O'connor	Fleet Ac	53:16.7	210 Andy Gill	Unaffiliated	55:41.7	241 Victoria White	Unaffiliated	58:30.5	273 Paul Keeley	Unaffiliated	1:02:29.3	305 Katie Gibson	Unaffiliated	1:13:18.3
180 Kim Batten	Southampton AC	53:16.9	211 Michael Harrison	Unaffiliated	56:08.2	242 Kirsty Anderson	Unaffiliated	58:30.6	274 Matthew Wright	Unaffiliated	1:02:37.7	306 Lucy King	Unaffiliated	1:13:43.7
181 Terry Clarke	Unaffiliated	53:12.9	212 Mark Cooter	Unaffiliated	56:07.1	243 Rich Hough	Unaffiliated	58:40.2	275 Melissa Morozzo	Unaffiliated	1:02:38.3	307 Sarah Aldridge	Winchester AC	1:16:39.7
182 Phillip Warner	Unaffiliated	53:35.3	213 Paul Eves	Lordshill	56:24.7	244 Neil Morgan	Unaffiliated	59:07.6	276 Paul Meades	Unaffiliated	1:02:57.4	308 Jenny Dawes	Lordshill	1:18:35.5
183 Andy Cliff	Unaffiliated	53:25.9	214 Isobel Clarke	Unaffiliated	56:32.3	245 Aly Hampshire	Unaffiliated	59:31.1	277 Shelly Hampshire	Unaffiliated	1:02:53.0			
184 Jeremy Pett	Unaffiliated	54:00.5	215 Alison Fortescue	Unaffiliated	56:30.5	246 Zoe Cooke	Unaffiliated	59:45.7	278 Audine Atyeo	Southampton RS	1:02:57.9			
						247 Leon Jones	Unaffiliated	59:45.7	279 Carole Driver	Unaffiliated	1:03:24.8			

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Non-league Football



NEW FOREST RESERVES: Junior 5 champions.



AFC GRAINS: Senior 1 winners.



REDLYNCH & WOODFALLS UNITED: Veterans over-40 champions.



HYTHE AZTECS VETERANS: Veterans A Division champions.



CADNAM UNITED: Premier Division winners.

CHAMPS CADNAM DENIED TREBLE

CADNAM United took the Drew Smith Group Southampton Football League Premier Division title by defeating Southampton University 3-1 in their final league game.

But they were denied a unique treble after losing on penalties to Richmond CC in the County Cup final and to main league rivals Comrades in the League Cup, **writes ROD SUTHERLAND.**

The Senior 1 title was decided in a winner-takes-all clash, with AFC Grains securing the title by virtue of a draw with rivals Solent Saints.

Third-placed Burridge AFC knocked AFC Grains out of the League Trophy to play Solent Saints in the final with Solent taking the Trophy on penalties after a 2-2 draw.

The Junior 1 title came to a head when AFC Gulf Western came back from 2-0 down to draw with Chamberlayne AFC.

Then Langley Manor did them a big favour by beating Chamberlayne 5-3 before Gulf secured the title by defeating Lowford.

Despite a season of struggle which left them bottom of the table Osborne belied their league form to win the Junior League Cup final against Bishop's Waltham Dynamo's.

Compton also excelled in reaching the HFA A Cup final before finding crack North Hants outfit New Inn just too strong, losing 2-0 at AFC Portchester's ground.

The Sdfa A Cup again saw the top two clash with Chamberlayne taking a 2-0 lead but Gulf produced another comeback against their rivals to win 3-2.

The Junior 2 title was always a two-horse race, secured by Braishfield thanks to a 2-0 win against student team Montefiore Halls.

Junior 3 AFC Botley were the first title winners of the season and won all 14 league matches, including the 4-0 win at bottom-of-the-table AFC Testwood that secured top spot before Christmas.

New Forest won Junior 4 on goal difference ahead of Sporting Wessex despite losing their last game to Athletic Romsey and an amaz-

ing finish to the season by runners-up Sporting Wessex.

Athletico triumphed 6-2 in the Sdfa B Cup final against New Forest reserves, having knocked out the New Forest first team in the semi-finals.

New Forest Reserves made up for their Cup final disappointment by winning Junior 5 ahead of BTC Soton A, who suffered as a result of internal club problems just when it mattered. A 7-1 victory for New Forest Res over BTC Soton A left them needing a point at home to Waltham Wolves. They won 7-0.

The Veterans A division was won by Hythe Aztecs ahead of Sporting BTC when Sporting surprisingly fell 3-2 at BTC Soton. Colden Common defeated Aztecs in the HFA Vets Cup final on penalties after Common gained a dramatic late equaliser. Aztecs scored late on to snatch victory over Regents Park in the Sdfa Vets final.

The Veterans B title is still shrouded in controversy. BTC Soton B looked to have sealed the title but it came to light that they had inadvertently fielded an ineligible player.

With points removed as a likely result of the indiscretion, Regents Park and AFC Stoneham were left to theoretically battle it out for the title, unsure as to the disciplinary outcome.

Redbridge OB provided stiff opposition for Regents Park in the final game but with Regents needing to avoid defeat in order to finish ahead of AFC Stoneham (BTC depending) a 3-2 victory proved sufficient.

The Veterans O-40 was won by Redlynch & Woodfalls as they came from behind to defeat Wildern OB 3-1 in the decisive game. Special mention to Humble Plumb who gained just three points all season but in true sporting fashion always gave their all.

The inaugural (weather-hit) Ladies division is still progressing with champions-elect Fleetlands winning all four of their matches so far (some teams have only played two games each).

If you are looking to enter a team please contact sotonfl@gmail.com or ring 02380 864828 for answer phone.

CALL SPORTS EDITOR SIMON CARTER ON 023 8042 4515

Non-league Football



NEW FOREST: Junior 4 champions.



REGENTS PARK VETERANS: Veterans B Division champions.



BRAISHFIELD: Junior 2 winners.



AFC GULF WESTERN: Junior 1 winners.



OSBORNE: Junior League Cup winners.



AFC BOTLEY: Junior 3 winners.



COMRADES: Senior League Cup winners.



SOLENT SAINTS: League Trophy winners.

EMAIL TEAM PICTURES TO echosport@dailyecho.co.uk



YORK

Today's runners

GOING: Soft

1.50 ONE MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS HANDICAP (CLASS 2). £25,000 added 3YO PLUS 7f Penalty Value £16,172.

1	051-06	SIRIUS PROSPECT (USA) (31) (CD) D Ivory 6 9 9	.....	G Lee 4
2	303360	BERTIEWHITTLE (21) (D) T D Barron 6 9 6	.....	G Gibbons 7
3	060-50	PINTURA (22) (CD) K Ryan 7 9 2	.....	T Hamilton 2
4	0100-1	BEST OF ORDER (IRE) (19) (D) D O'Meara 7 9 2	.....	R P Whelan (3) 6
5	200-10	BRAE HILL (IRE) (35) (D) R Fahey 8 9 2	.....	F Tylicki 5
6	2126-0	DUTCH ROSE (IRE) (30) (D) D O'Meara 5 9 2	.....	L Morris 1
7	20-050	BALTY BOYS (IRE) (22) (D) B Ellison 5 9 2	.....	B McHugh 3
8	315535	ALFRED HUTCHINSON (16) (C)(D) G Oldroyd 6 9 2	.....	R Tart (3) 8

BETTING: 2-1 Best Of Order, 9-2 Sirius Prospect, 5-1 Alfred Hutchinson, 7-1 Bertiewhittle, 8-1 Brae Hill, 10-1 Balty Boys, Dutch Rose, 14-1 Pintura.

2.20 STOWE FAMILY LAW LLP GRAND CUP (LISTED) (CLASS 1). £40,000 added 4YO PLUS 1m 6f Penalty Value £22,684.

1	231-04	RENEW (IRE) (28) M Botti 4 9 3	.....	A Fresu 12
2	4180-5	CAP O'RUSHES (21) C Appleby 4 9 0	.....	M Barzalona 11
3	11	CLEVER COOKIE (17) (C) P Niven 6 9 0	.....	G Lee 7
4	055-03	FIRST MOHICAN (14) (C) A King 6 9 0	.....	D Sweeney 2
5	1-0405	RALSTON ROAD (IRE) (63) J P Shanahan (IRE) 4 9 0	.....	R P Whelan 4
6	50-352	RAWAKI (IRE) (15) A Balding 6 9 0	.....	Hayley Turner 8
7	364-50	REPEATER (15) D O'Meara 5 9 0	.....	L Morris 8
8	125-36	SHWAIMAN (IRE) (24) J Fanshawe 4 9 0	.....	T Hamilton 10
9	0-5213	SIRVINO (15) (CD)(D) T D Barron 9 9 0	.....	G Gibbons 6
10	421-00	STATUTORY (IRE) (91) S Bin Suror 4 9 0	.....	F Tylicki 9
11	3300-3	ALTA LILEA (IRE) (16) M Johnston 4 8 9	.....	A Nicholls 13
12	623-04	BODY LANGUAGE (IRE) (15) (D) J Williams 6 8 9	.....	B McHugh 5
13	3313-6	PARTY LINE (15) (D) M Johnston 5 8 9	.....	M J Murphy 1

BETTING: 9-2 Rawaki, 5-1 First Mohican, 6-1 Cap O'Rushes, 7-1 Renew, 8-1 Ralston Road, 10-1 Statutory, Clever Cookie, 12-1 Repeater, 14-1 others.

2.50 BETBRIGHT TROPHY (HANDICAP) (CLASS 2). £50,000 added 3YO PLUS 5f Penalty Value £31,125.

1	-60601	MONSIEUR JOE (IRE) (16) (CD) P Midgley 7 9 10	.....	G Lee 13
2	012514	ALBEN STAR (IRE) (27) (D) R Fahey 6 9 9	.....	T Hamilton 2
3	2-3602	MASAMAH (IRE) (24) (CD) M Botti 7 9 2	.....	L Morris 15
4	0105-0	MAGICAL MACEY (USA) (18) (DD) T D Barron 7 9 5	.....	G Gibbons 5
5	065020	RACY (44) (D) B Ellison 7 9 5	.....	F Tylicki 17
6	16-030	BODY AND SOUL (IRE) (17) (C)(D) T Easterby 4 9 5	.....	D Fentiman 1
7	00-000	ANCIENT CROSS (16) (CD) M W Easterby 10 9 0	.....	B McHugh 4
8	-04300	INXILE (IRE) (16) (D) Nicholls 9 8 12	.....	A Nicholls 9
9	0-0505	SECRET WITNESS (16) (CD)(D) R Harris 8 8 11	.....	B A Curtis 7
10	306-36	JAMAICAN BOLT (IRE) (17) (D) G Oldroyd 6 8 11	.....	R Tart (3) 19
11	60-400	EL VIENTO (FR) (17) (CD) R Fahey 6 8 10	.....	Samantha Bell (5) 16
12	32-051	TUMBLEWIND (14) (D) R M Whitaker 4 8 9	.....	G Chaloner (3) 14
13	40-010	NORMAL EQUILIBRIUM (16) (D) R Cowell 4 8 9	.....	M J Murphy (3) 11
14	142221	MAPPIN TIME (IRE) (35) (D) T Easterby 6 8 9	.....	D Allan 3
15	421300	EVEN STEVENS (43) (D9) S Dixon 6 8 9	.....	M Hopkins (7) 10
16	440-40	LONG AWAITED (IRE) (16) (D) T D Barron 6 8 8	.....	Hayley Turner 8
17	4-0443	SINGEUR (IRE) (12) (CD) R Eastman 7 8 8	.....	N Farley (3) 12
18	313243	TOP BOY (16) (D) D Shaw 4 8 8	.....	A McLean (7) 8
19	0-0111	TAURUS TWINS (10) (D9) R J Price 8 8 0	.....	R Da Silva 6

BETTING: 7-1 Alben Star, 8-1 Monsie Joe, Taurus Twins, 10-1 Body And Soul, Jamaican Bolt, 12-1 Tumblewind, Top Boy, Masamah, 14-1 others.

3.25 IRISH CHAMPIONS WEEKEND HANDICAP (CLASS 3). £15,000 added 4YO PLUS 1m 4f Penalty Value £9,704.

1	0260-0	NICHOLASCOPERNICUS (IRE) (27) (D) Ed Walker 5 9 7	.....	G Lee 8
2	0133-0	GRANDORIO (IRE) (17) (C) D O'Meara 4 9 6	.....	R P Whelan (3) 12
3	/2300-	WADI AL HATTAWI (IRE) (266) S Bin Suror 4 9 5	.....	F Tylicki 17
4	20026-	RIO'S ROSANNA (IRE) (191) (CD) R M Whitaker 7 9 4	.....	G Chaloner (3) 16
5	213-	ENDLESS CREDIT (IRE) (315) L Cumani 4 9 3	.....	L Morris 15
6	0-0060	MEDIA HYPE (15) (C)(D) K Burke 7 9 3	.....	L Steward (5) 7
7	61-	GREAT FIGHTER (219) S Bin Suror 4 9 2	.....	Hayley Turner 4
8	00-613	ITLAQ (15) (C)(D) M W Easterby 8 9 2	.....	G Gibbons 5
9	133344	BUTE HALL (15) (D) D Thompson 5 9 0	.....	J Quinn 2
10	11-206	EBONY EXPRESS (17) (D) G Swinbank 5 8 13	.....	B A Curtis 9
11	2402/3	LOCAL HERO (GER) (21) (D) S Gollings 7 8 13	.....	M Barzalona 3
12	000-60	WARLU WAY (17) (D) M W Easterby 7 8 12	.....	B McHugh 14
13	/23051	STREETS OF NEWYORK (17) (CD) B Ellison 7 8 11	.....	R Tart (3) 10
14	0000-0	CRACKENTORP (17) (CD) T Easterby 9 8 10	.....	D Allan 13
15	0-2433	HIGH OFFICE (16) R Fahey 8 8 7	.....	Samantha Bell (5) 11
16	R20-52	ALLNECESSARYFORCE (FR) (2) R Fahey 4 8 7	.....	T Hamilton 6
17	536-05	ZEUS MAGIC (44) B Ellison 4 8 7	.....	D Fentiman 1

BETTING: 6-1 Great Fighter, 7-1 Nicholascopernicus, 8-1 Endless Credit, 10-1 High Office, Itlaq, Streets Of Newyork, Grandorio, 12-1 Rio's Rosanna, Wadi Al Hattawi, 14-1 others.

4.00 YORKSHIRE REGIMENT EBF STALLIONS MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS 3). £11,500 added 2YO only 6f Penalty Value £7,439.

1	4	ARCH ENEMY (19) M W Easterby 9 5	.....	G Gibbons 2
2	2	MISTER UNIVERSE (16) M Johnston 9 5	.....	G Lee 1
		MURADIF (IRE) W Haggas 9 5	.....	M Barzalona 8
		PROUD OF YOU (IRE) N Tinkler 9 5	.....	Hayley Turner 3
5	6	UPWARD TREND (IRE) (24) T Easterby 9 5	.....	D Allan 4
6	5	BONDS CHOICE (16) R Fahey 9 0	.....	G Chaloner (3) 7
7	0	HOME CUMMINS (IRE) R Fahey 9 0	.....	T Hamilton 5
8	0	PENNY ROYALE (26) T Easterby 9 0	.....	D Fentiman 6

BETTING: 10-11 Mister Universe, 4-1 Home Cummins, 9-2 Muradif, 12-1 Bonds Choice,

CHESTER

Today's runners

GOING: Good to Soft-Soft in places

2.00 ONE COST / EBF STALLIONS MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS 4). £12,000 added 2YO only 6f Penalty Value £7,763.

1		ANONYMOUS JOHN (IRE) P Evans 9 5	.....	A Kirby 4
2	2	BAITHA ALGA (IRE) (8) R Hannan 9 5	.....	S Levey 2
3	0	BILLY SLATER (23) R Fahey 9 5	.....	T Eaves 1
4	0	CYMR0 (IRE) T Dascombe 9 5	.....	O Murphy (3) 2
5	0	INDESCRIBABLE (IRE) (21) M Johnston 9 5	.....	J Fanning 7
6	54	POPESWOOD (IRE) (16) M Channon 9 5	.....	W Twiston-Davies (3) 6
7	05	VERCHILLO LAD (IRE) (11) P Evans 9 5	.....	P Mulrennan 5

BETTING: 5-6 Baitha Alga, 5-1 Cymro, 7-1 Popeswood, 8-1 Billy Slater, 10-1 Anonymous John, 16-1 Indescribable, 20-1 Verchillo Lad.

2.30 APPLETISER FILLIES' HANDICAP (CLASS 3). £21,000 added 4YO PLUS 6f Penalty Value £13,585.

1	025-01	LOVE ISLAND (13) (D) R M Whitaker 5 9 7	.....	C Beasley (3) 8
2	700-65	ROYAL RASCAL (17) (D) T Easterby 4 9 6	.....	T Eaves 1
3	152-12	BONDESIRE (13) (D)(BF) D O'Meara 4 9 4	.....	Julie Burke (3) 4
4	60-030	JILLNEXTDOOR (IRE) (67) M Channon 4 9 2	.....	W Twiston-Davies (3) 2
5	0015-4	MILLY'S GIFT (22) (D) C Cox 4 9 0	.....	A Kirby 7
6	020-40	BEAUTIFUL VIEW (15) R Hannan 4 8 7	.....	S Levey 6
7	03-234	CALIFANTE (106) (D) T Hogan (IRE) 4 8 7	.....	O Murphy (3) 2
8	320005	HANNAHS TURN (5) (D) C Dwyer 4 8 7	.....	J Fanning 3

BETTING: 11-4 Bondsire, 7-2 Royal Rascal, 4-1 Love Island, 5-1 Milly's Gift, 8-1 Jillnextdoor, 10-1 Califante, 14-1 Beautiful View, 25-1 Hannahs Turn.

3.05 MATTHEW CLARK HANDICAP (CLASS 2).

NEWBURY

Today's runners

GOING: Soft

6.10 AL BASTI EQUIWORLD AMATEUR RIDERS' HANDICAP (CLASS 5). £5,000 added 4YO PLUS 1m 2f Penalty Value £3,120.

1	6-0033	JEWELLED (86) (D) R J Smith 8 11 0	.....	Miss Ella Smith (5) 2
2	4365-4	JEHRIL (FR) (20) J Portman 4 10 12	.....	Mr J Harding (5) 7
3	12006-	YOUNG DOTTIE (189) P Rascal 8 10 12	.....	Miss L Dempster (5) 11
4	-50221	HAIL PROMENADER (IRE) (67) A Carson 8 10 10	.....	Miss L Mager (7) 1
5	40-113	MEGALALA (IRE) (10) (C)(D11) J Bridger 13 10 8	.....	Mr C Martin (3) 13
6	4/154-	PAHENTE (436) A Carroll 6 10 8	.....	Miss Jo Mason (3) 1
7	53313-	CANDELITA (148) (BF) M Sheppard 7 10 8	.....	Mr S Sheppard (7) 6
8	4040-3	HERNANDO TORRES (22) (D) M W Easterby 6 10 6	.....	Mrs R Wilson (5) 3
9	434562	DARK AND DANGEROUS (IRE) (5) (BF) B Powell 6 10 1	.....	Miss E J Jones 4
10	342614	SUPA SEEKER (USA) (33) A Carroll 8 10 0	.....	Miss S Brotherton 9
11	222356	POLYDAMOS (66) A Carroll 5 10 0	.....	Miss M Nicholls (5) 8
12	600-60	KILBURN (129) A J Lidderdale 10 10 0	.....	Miss N Currie (7) 12
13	-02500	RYDEALE LASS (27) (D) G Deacon 6 10 0	.....	Miss Page Fuller (5) 5

BETTING: 9-2 Megalala, 5-1 Dark And Dangerous, 6-1 Jewelled, 7-1 Hail Promenader, 8-1 Jehril, Candelita, 10-1 Pahente, Hernando Torres, 12-1 others.

6.40 RELYON CLEANING NEWBURY MAIDEN AUCTION FILLIES' STAKES (CLASS 5). £5,000 added 2YO only 6f Penalty Value £3,234.

1		BARONESSA (IRE) R Hannan 8 13	.....	R Hughes 10
2		FREE TO LOVE C Hills 8 13	.....	S Drowne 8
3		SECRET SPIRIT C Cox 8 13	.....	R Tate (5) 2
4		AZURE AMOUR (IRE) R Beckett 8 10	.....	J Crowley 1
5		SLEEPY DUST (IRE) S Kirk 8 10	.....	J Baudains (5) 14

6		WHITE VIN JAN M Bell 8 10	.....	P Cosgrave 6
7		PACOS DREAM H Dunlop 8 8	.....	H Bentley 7
8		ROYAL RAZALMA (IRE) J Portman 8 8	.....	M Lawson (3) 3
9		BIRDIE MUST FLY J Fox 8 8	.....	K O'Neill 9
10	02	BLUE BURMERE (IRE) (21) M Usher 8 6	.....	M Dwyer 5
11		GLIDED LACE J S Moore 8 6	.....	P Prince (5) 13
12	0342	KIDMEFOREVER (13) J S Moore 8 6	.....	R Hornby (7) 11
13		MAGIC MAC H Morrison 8 6	.....	J McDonald 4
14		MISTRAL Steph Hollinshead 8 6	.....	Shelley Birkett (5) 12

BETTING: 2-1 Baronessa, 7-2 Blue Burmese, 7-1 Free To Love, 8-1 Azure Amour, 12-1 White Vin Jan, 14-1 Kidmebefore, Secret Spirit, 16-1 Sleepy Dust, 20-1 others.

7.10 BATHWICK TYRES HANDICAP (RND) (CLASS 4). £7,250 added 4YO PLUS 1m Penalty Value £4,690.

1	313211	UNCLE DERMOT (IRE) (9) (D) B Powell 6 9 10	.....	R Tate (5) 1
2	311-31	KNIGHT OWL (22) (D) J Fanshawe 4 9 7	.....	S W Kelly (9) 5
3	0323-0	BUCKSTAY (IRE) (23) P Chapple-Hyam 4 9 4	.....	J Crowley 3
4	3645-4	REE'S RASCAL (IRE) (226) (CD) J Boyle 6 9 4	.....	N Alison (5) 8
5	3421-3	HARRY BOSCH (26) (D) B Meehan 4 9 4	.....	R Hughes 7
6	3130-3	ANNAWI (28) (D) H Candy 4 9 3	.....	D Sweeney 4
7	1-1305	BIG BAZ (IRE) (15) (D) W Muir 4 9 3	.....	M Dwyer 10
8	536302	FIRST POST (IRE) (17) (CD) D Hagan Jones 7 8 13	.....	H Bentley 2
9	2-2323	AQUA ARDENS (GER) (14) (D) G Baker 6 8 12	.....	P Cosgrave 6
10	12660-	MAZAHER (228) (D) J Hills 4 8 9	.....	R Havlin 11
11	0410-6	FALCON'S REIGN (FR) (17) (D)(BF) M Appleby 5 8 8	.....	A Mullen 12
12	0-2466	ATLANTIS CROSSING (IRE) (8) J Boyle 5 8 8	.....	W Carson 5

BETTING: 3-1 Uncle Dermot, 7-2 Knight Owl, 6-1 Harry Bosch, 8-1 Aqua Ardens, 10-1 First Post, 12-1 Buckstay, Annawi, 14-1 Falcon's Reign, 16-1 others.

7.40 BATHWICK TYRES MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS 5). £5,000 added 3YO only 1m 2f 6yds Penalty Value £3,234.

1	0	ASTRONEUREUS (IRE) (14) Mrs A Perrett 9 5	.....	D Sweeney 15
2	6	CINNAMON SPICE (218) H Dunlop 9 5	.....	P Cosgrave 7
3	05	DO WAH DIDDY DIDDY (9) C Cox 9 5	.....	S Drowne 9
4		DUNES KEN S Kirk 9 5	.....	J Baudains (5) 11
5	2-02	DURSEY ISLAND (USA) (24) R Hannan 9 5	.....	R Hughes 10
6		FASNET RED (54) J Gooden 9 5	.....	R Havlin 6
7	0	GOLDENROD (27) R Beckett 9 5	.....	J Crowley 2
8	4	IGIDER (IRE) (16) R Varian 9 5	.....	A Atzeni 4
9		JOHNNY RAE A Balding 9 5	.....	M Dwyer 12
10		KINGS FETE Sir M Stoute 9 5	.....	James Doyle 3
11	0	NEW STORY (14) J Mohammed 9 5	.....	J Baudains (5) 11
12	6-0	NORSE LIGHT (19) R Beckett 9 5	.....	H Bentley 1
13	2	SECOND STEP (IRE) (214) L Cumani 9 5	.....	S W Kelly 8
14	45	YAAKOOUM (IRE) (260) R Hannan 9 5	.....	K O'Neill 13
15	50	GREENGAE SUMMER (14) M Channon 9 0	.....	S Hitchcott 16
16	00	LITTLE FLO (115) B Powell 9 0	.....	R Tate (5) 14

BETTING: 3-1 Dursey Island, 9-2 Bigger, 5-1 Second Step, 8-1 Kings Fete, 10-1 Fasnet Red, 12-1 Yaakoum, Astroneureus, 14-1 Greengae Summer, 16-1 others.

8.10 AL BASTI EQUIWORLD HANDICAP (CLASS 5). £5,000 added 4YO PLUS 1m 5f Penalty Value £3,234.

1	030-41	MEETINGS MAN (4) (D) Miss A Brewer 7 9 11(Gex)	.....	S Drowne 9
2	03-41	WANNABE YOUR MAN (22) R Varian 4 9 7	.....	A Atzeni 5
3	6630-0	RED PILGRIM (IRE) (33) J Toller 4 9 7	.....	R Tart (3) 1

16-1 Upward Trend, 20-1 Proud Of You, 25-1 Penny Royale, Arch Enemy.

4.35 INFINITY TYRES BREEDERS BACKING RACING EBF MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS 4). £12,500 added 3YO only 6f Penalty Value £8,086.

1	60234-	BLURRED VISION (231) W Jarvis 9 5	.....	G Gibbons 2
2	220-26	DUTCH BREEZE (16) T Easterby 9 5	.....	D Allan 4
3	5	PICCADILLY JIM (IRE) (19) R Fahey 9 5	.....	T Hamilton 1
4	0	QUASQAZAH (11) R Varian 9 5	.....	G Lee 3

BETTING: 8-13 Blurred Vision, 9-4 Dutch Breeze, 10-1 Piccadilly Jim, 14-1 Quasqazah.

5.10 JOHN WRIGHT ELECTRICAL GENTLEMAN AMATEUR RIDERS' HANDICAP (CLASS 4). £10,000 added 4YO PLUS 1m 2f Penalty Value £6,239.

1	25060-	NEXT EDITION (IRE) (155) P Kirby 6 11 7	.....	Mr P Dennis (5) 9
2	30-021	WAR POET (25) (D) B Ellison 7 11 7	.....	Mr S Walker 10
3	5-6033	KARAKA JACK (38) (C) D Nicholls 7 11 5	.....	Mr H Bannister 2
4	422434	MICA MIKA (IRE) (17) R Fahey 6 11 5	.....	Mr A Hamilton 7
5	50605-	CHRISTMAS LIGHT (231) (C)(D) B Ellison 7 11 5	.....	D O Cottle (5) 5
6	040226	SAN CASSIANO (IRE) (11) (D) Mrs R Carr 7 11 4	.....	Mr R Colley (5) 11
7	25-046	AMAZE (22) (D) B Ellison 6 11 1	.....	Mr A R Ferguson (5) 3
8	3433-4	MU'AJIZA (25) P Midgley 4 11 1	.....	Mr A French (7) 6
9	-30314	I'M SUPER TOO (R) (8) G Swinbank 7 11 0	.....	Mr O Sangster (5) 5
10	1446-	ONLY ORSENFOLDS (420) M Hammond 5 10 13	.....	Mr W Hogg 4
11	65-010	TRAVIS COUNTY (IRE) (14) B Ellison 5 10 7	.....	Mr J Wiley (5) 5

Horse Racing

Easy verdict for Jury

GARSWOOD should be given a chance to redeem himself as he tackles his optimum trip and ground in the Timeform Jury Stakes at Haydock.

The four-year-old proved a touch below the best over a mile last year and was not quite speedy enough to mix it with the top sprinters over six furlongs.

That said, he is still a more-than-useful animal over the intermediary distance of seven furlongs, as evidenced by his excellent run in the Jersey Stakes and his victory in the Lennox Stakes last term.

He signed off 2013 with a fine third behind superstar mare Moonlight Cloud at Longchamps and trainer Richard Fahey had hoped to eke out his stamina to a mile this year with another winter on his back.

However, he let down favourite-backers in the Sandown Mile where, despite being ridden with restraint early on, the last of the eight furlongs just proved beyond him again.

Dropping back for this Group Three event, also known as the John Of Gaunt, seems the obvious options and there are some nice targets later in the year which could be on Garswood's radar.

Cubanita was another who failed to stay when upped in trip to a mile and six furlongs at York

but it is hard to go against her dropped back in distance for the Pinnacle Stakes.

She made great strides for Hampshire trainer Ralph Beckett, pictured, towards the end of last season, chasing home subsequent Group One winner Tac De Boistron before signing off with a Group Three success at Newbury.

The Selkirk mare triumphed on heavy ground that day but showed that she does not need ground that deep when kicking off 2014 with victory on good ground in the John Porter at Newbury.

Racing off level weights, she fended off Noble Mission by a neck, with the runner-up subsequently doing wonders for the form with two Group Three wins before his Tattersalls Gold Cup triumph last weekend.

Cubanita was disappointing when beating only one rival home at York but the distance was clearly all wrong and this near 12-furlong trip will certainly play to her strengths.

Swan Song can prove an apt

winner of the Winning Express Achilles Stakes in the week her dam, the great Lochsong, passed away.

Swan Song does not have the raw ability of her mother, but she has been progressing well and her recent Chester success seems



to show that she is improving with age – just as her dam did.

Cap O'Rushes should feel the benefit of his recent reappearance run as he tackles the Stowe Family Law LLP Grand Cup at York.

The four-year-old posted an excellent effort in finishing fourth when used as a pacemaker in last year's Irish Derby, with a subsequent Group

Two win at Goodwood marking him out as a promising type.

Quick ground was thought not to suit when subsequently well beaten in the Voltigeur and he was then again used as the hare for a better fancied stablemate in the St Leger.

Given his previous pacemaking roles, it was no surprise to see him take a good grip on his return at Ascot and he set a good gallop

in a Listed heat there, teeing the race up for others before fading in the finish.

Cap O'Rushes should progress for that run and given the conditions of this race, he has upwards of 1lb in hand on all but one of his rivals.

Body And Soul found Group Two company beyond her at this track earlier in the month but should not be dismissed in the BetBright Trophy as she returns to handicap company.

Rye House was an unlucky loser on the Knavesmire last time but can gain compensation in the John Sunley Memorial Levy Board Handicap at Newmarket.

Returning from a year off the track, Sir Michael Stoute's charge kept on in the final furlong after finding his route blocked, but his fourth place behind Clever Cookie means he still remains on a very handy mark.

Shrewd handler Tom Hogan sends Califante across from Ireland for the Appletiser Fillies' Handicap at Chester and the hint should be taken as she has fallen right down the ratings to her lowest mark to date.

Azure Amour can make a winning start to her career in Newbury's Relyon Cleaning Newbury Maiden Auction Fillies' Stakes, while Firebird Flyer should be the star attraction in the Severn Cider Handicap Chase at Stratford.

HAYDOCK

GOING: Soft

1.30

HAYDOCK-PARK.CO.UK HANDICAP (CLASS 4). £8,000 added 4YO PLUS 1m Penalty Value £5,175.

1	013-46	DUBAI HILLS (30) (C) (D) D O'Meara 8 9 7	D Tudhope 11
2	30064/	TAKE IT TO THE MAX (594) (D) G M Moore 7 9 7	A Elliott 7
3	11644-	MOROCCO (238) (D) D O'Meara 5 9 6	K Fallon 3
4	313-05	EURYSTHEUS (IRE) (21) (D) M Appleby 5 9 5	A Mullen 6
5	6-6330	KING OF EDEN (IRE) (11) (C) E Alston 8 9 5	J Hart (3) 1
6	26122-	EXTRATERRESTRIAL (234) (D) R Fahey 10 9 2	L Dettori 5
7	210-00	BOB (26) (D) J L Eyre 4 9 2	P J Quailly 10
8	0-0016	JUSTONEFORTHROAD (14) (D) R Fahey 8 9 2	P J Smullen 4
9	2660-1	EXZACHARY (21) J Hughes 4 9 1	H Burns (7) 9
10	600-01	POOR DUKE (IRE) (49) (D) M Mullineaux 4 8 11	T Clark (5) 2
11	20-200	RIO COBOLO (IRE) (21) (C) (D) P Kirby 8 8 7	P McDonald 8

BETTING: 3-1 Exzachary, 7-2 Extraterrestrial, 15-2 Morocco, 8-1 Poor Duke, Eurystheus, 10-1 King Of Eden, Justonefortheroad, 12-1 Dubai Hills, 14-1 others.

2.05

PINNACLE STAKES (FILLIES' GROUP 3) (CLASS 1). £63,000 added 4YO PLUS 1m 4f Penalty Value £35,727.

1	321-10	CUBANITA (15) (D) R Beckett 5 9 3	J Crowley 5
2	1221-4	ASTONISHING (IRE) (49) (D) Sir M Stoute 4 9 0	R Hughes 6
3	521-23	FREEDOM'S LIGHT (28) (D) J Gosden 4 9 0	L Dettori 1
4	50055-	HOLLOWINA (214) (C) D Brown 4 9 0	P J Smullen 9
5	41-50	KHIONE (15) (D) L Cumani 5 9 0	K Fallon 11
6	1/30-6	MADAME DEFARGE (IRE) (27) M Bell 4 9 0	T Quailly 2
7	63-504	MOMENT IN TIME (63) (GD) D M Simcock 5 9 0	M Lane 10
8	014-00	QUIZ MISTRESS (16) (D) H Smart 6 9 0	D Tudhope 4
9	0143-1	SILK SARI (28) (D) L Cumani 4 9 0	D Probert 3
10	63-315	SPECIAL MEANING (15) (D) M Johnston 4 9 0	F Norton 8
11	1	SULTANINA (16) (D) J Gosden 4 9 0	W Buick 7

BETTING: 4-1 Astonishing, 9-2 Cubanita, 5-1 Khione, 6-1 Moment In Time, 8-1 Quiz Mistress, 10-1 Special Meaning, Sultanina, 12-1 Freedom's Light, Silk Sari, Madame Defarge, 50-1 Hollowina.

2.40

TIMEFORM JURY STAKES (REGISTERED AS THE JOHN OF GAUNT STAKES) (GROUP 3) (CLASS 1). £63,000 added 4YO PLUS 7f Penalty Value £35,727.

1	4420-1	AMARILLO (IRE) (30) (CD) P Schiergen (GER) 5 9 3	R Hughes 4
2	12-131	BRETTON ROCK (IRE) (21) (CD) D M Simcock 4 9 0	M Lane 2
3	40-322	CUSTOM CUT (IRE) (25) (D) D O'Meara 5 9 0	W Buick 8
4	203055	EMPIRE STORM (GB) (14) M Attwater 7 9 0	T Quailly 6
5	1/15-1	ELTON FOREVER (IRE) (31) (D) R Fahey 7 9 0	L Dettori 9
6	4183-5	GARSWOOD (36) (D) (BF) R Fahey 4 9 0	P J Smullen 5
7	2140-1	HERE COMES WHEN (IRE) (22) (D) A Balding 4 9 0	J Crowley 1
8	01-036	PENITENT (20) (D) D O'Meara 8 9 0	D Tudhope 3
9	32341-	TAHWDI (253) (D) S Bin Suror 4 9 0	K Fallon 7

BETTING: 7-2 Garswood, 6-1 Elton Forever, Tahwdi, 13-2 Penitent, 7-1 Amarillo, 8-1 Bretton Rock, Here Comes When, Empire Storm, 10-1 Custom Cut.

3.15

WINNING EXPRESS ACHILLES STAKES (LISTED) (CLASS 1). £37,000 added 3YO PLUS 5f Penalty Value £20,983.

1	56-140	DINKUM DIAMOND (IRE) (28) (D) H Candy 6 9 8	T Quailly 3
2	201-10	ETON RIFLES (IRE) (17) (C) (D) S Williams 9 9 8	P J Smullen 1
3	2010-3	STEPS (IRE) (50) (D) R Varian 6 9 8	K Fallon 5
4	050-04	CONFESSIONAL (14) (CD) T Easterby 7 9 4	P McDonald 9
5	32040-	MOVE IN TIME (322) (D) (BF) D O'Meara 6 9 4	D Tudhope 10
6	130-01	NOBLE STORM (USA) (14) (CD) E McMahon 8 9 4	J Hart 8
7	10022-	YORK GLORY (USA) (252) (D) K Ryan 6 9 4	R Hughes 7
8	11-563	DA'QUONDE (IRE) (14) (D) H Smart 6 8 13	R Frenché 2
9	50-204	GRAPHIC GUEST (7) (D) R Cowell 4 8 13	J Crowley 6
10	310-41	SWAN SONG (24) (D) A Balding 5 8 13	D Probert 2

BETTING: 7-2 York Glory, 9-2 Swan Song, 5-1 Noble Storm, 13-2 Dinkum Diamond, Eton Rifles, 7-1 Steps, 12-1 Move In Time, 14-1 Graphic Guest, 16-1 others.

3.50

SANDY LANE STAKES (LISTED) (CLASS 1). £37,000 added 3YO only 6f Penalty Value £20,983.

1	301410	MICK'S YER MAN (7) (D) W G M Turner 9 9 3	R While 5
2	1150-1	SHAMSHON (IRE) (16) R Hannan 9 9 3	L Dettori 1
3	112-36	AEOLUS (IRE) (14) (D) E McAlhally 8 9 3	R Hughes 6
4	00140-	BAHAMIAN HEIGHTS (263) (D) C Brittain 9 9 3	F Fallon 2
5	0600-1	BEN HALL (IRE) (92) (CD) Mike Murphy 9 9 0	K Fallon 7
6	320-05	NO LEAF CLOVER (IRE) (15) (D) O Pears 9 9 0	D Probert 3
7	233-54	PARBOLD (IRE) (14) (D) (BF) R Fahey 9 9 0	P J Smullen 8
8	1-0	BETIMES (27) J Gosden 8 9	W Buick 4

BETTING: 11-4 Parbold, 7-2 Shamshon, 11-2 Aeolus, Mick's Yer Man, 15-2 Betimes, 8-1 Ben Hall, 12-1 No Leaf Clover, 14-1 Bahamian Heights.

4.25

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER AT HAYDOCKRACES HANDICAP (CLASS 4). £10,000 added 3YO only 6f Penalty Value £6,469.

1	451-45	LEXINGTON ABBEY (19) (D) K Ryan 9 9 3	P J Smullen 8
2	1	LIGHTNING MOON (IRE) (27) (D) Ed Walker 9 9 5	W Buick 1
3	600-20	TWO SMARTY (IRE) (17) K Burke 9 9 3	D Tudhope 6
4	100-00	RED LADY (IRE) (14) (CD) E McAlhally 8 9 3	K Fallon 2
5	60-415	SKYE'S THE LIMIT (15) R Fahey 8 13	P Mathers 5
6	2351-0	PENNINE WARRIOR (28) S Dixon 8 10	R Hughes 4
7	2100-0	DISCLOSURE (14) (D) J L Eyre 8 9	M Lane 3
8	016-53	VALUE (IRE) (10) (D) Miss G Kellaway 8 7	D Probert 7

BETTING: 5-2 Lightning Moon, 3-1 Skye's The Limit, 13-2 Value, 7-1 Lexington Abbey, 15-2 Pennine Warrior, 8-1 Two Smart, 12-1 Red Lady, 14-1 Disclosure.

5.00

80'S MUSIC NIGHT HERE 21ST JUNE HANDICAP (CLASS 4). £10,000 added 3YO only 1m 2f Penalty Value £6,469.

1	10-05	FAROUHAR (IRE) (15) P Chapple-Hyam 9 9 7	L Dettori 8
2	523-4	EARLY MORNING (IRE) (38) H Dunlop 9 4	W Buick 1
3	0-12	SALTWATER CREEK (IRE) (31) M Bell 9 4	T Quailly 6
4	2481-0	ISTIMARRA (IRE) (24) P Kirby 8 10	D Tudhope 4
5	1-2334	SHIMBA HILLS (22) M Channon 9 1	C Bishop (3) 3
6	02-0	CLASSICAL ART (IRE) (33) R Varian 9 0	K Fallon 2
7	34-243	SAMTU (IRE) (89) C Brittain 8 10	M Lane 5
8	3-2343	CLEAR SPELL (IRE) (19) A Whillans 8 10	P McDonald 7

BETTING: 11-4 Saltwater Creek, 7-2 Classical Art, 6-1 Shimba Hills, 7-1 Samtu, Early Morning, 8-1 Clear Spell, 10-1 Farquhar, Istimarra.

NEWMARKET

GOING: Soft

1.55

L-3.CO SUPPORTING THE AHT EBF STALLIONS MAIDEN STAKES (DIV 1) (CLASS 4). £7,000 added 2YO only 6f Penalty Value £4,528.

1	ARC CARA (ITY) R Beckett 9 5	R Kingscote 5
2	COMMANDER PATTEN (IRE) (16) A Bailey 9 5	A Atzeni 10
3	DARK PROFIT (IRE) C Hills 9 5	G Baker 8
4	EPHETH (IRE) C Appleby 9 5	James Doyle 7
5	FAITHFUL CREEK (IRE) B Meehan 9 5	D O'Neill 11
6	FRANKIE GARTH (IRE) (16) D Elsworth 9 5	W Carson 6
7	PEACOCK R Hampton 9 5	R L Moore 1
8	RECORD PANKHURST J Gosden 9 5	R Havlin 9
9	SHAAKIS (IRE) M Treganing 9 5	P Hanagan 3
10	SILENT THUNDER (IRE) W Hagas 9 5	L Jones 4
11	STEADY MAJOR (IRE) D M Simcock 9 5	P Cosgrave 2

BETTING: 7-2 Peacock, 5-1 Commander Patten, 11-2 Epheth, 13-2 Silent Thunder, 7-1 Dark Profit, 8-1 Richard Pankhurst, 10-1 Shaakis, 14-1 Steady Major, Faithful Creek, 16-1 others.

2.25

L-3.CO SUPPORTING THE AHT EBF STALLIONS MAIDEN STAKES (DIV 2) (CLASS 4). £7,000 added 2YO only 6f Penalty Value £4,528.

1	ALAKHATI (IRE) C Hills 9 5	P Hanagan 10
2	BEAUCHAMP ACE Fitting 9 5	R Kingscote 5
3	BURNT SUGAR (IRE) R Hannan 9 5	P Dobbs 8
4	DISEGNO (IRE) Sir M Stoute 9 5	R L Moore 4
5	HEARTBREAK HERO W Hagas 9 5	A Atzeni 2
6	JUSTICE WELL D Elsworth 9 5	W Carson 7
7	SCUTUM (IRE) B Meehan 9 5	M Dwyer 6
8	SECRET BRIEF (IRE) (13) M Johnston 9 5	D O'Neill 1
9	SKYGAZER (IRE) (11) C Appleby 9 5	James Doyle 9
10	SPEEDY MOVE (IRE) A Mohammed 9 5	L Jones 3

BETTING: 7-2 Disegno, 4-1 Alakhati, 5-1 Burnt Sugar, 11-2 Secret Brief, 7-1 Heartbreak Hero, 10-1 Scutum, 12-1 Skygazer, 14-1 Beauchamp Ace, Justice Well, 20-1 Speedy Move.

3.00

BETFAIR SUPPORTING THE ANIMAL HEALTH TRUST HANDICAP (CLASS 2). £30,000 added 3YO PLUS 6f Penalty Value £19,407.

1	0000-0	ZANETTO (27) (CD) A Balding 4 10 0	M Dwyer 1
2	0100-0	SECRET ASSET (IRE) (245) (D) J Chapple-Hyam 9 9 12	D Kenny (5) 4
3	050-40	DONT BOTHER ME (IRE) (21) M Botti 4 9 12	R L Moore 9
4	0101-0	HOODNA (IRE) (190) (D) S Bin Suror 4 9 10	H Bentley 13
5	2600-1	GOLDREAM (27) (CD) R Cowell 5 9 9	A Atzeni 12

6	03000-	BURWAAZ (224) E Dunlop 5 9 9	D O'Neill 10
7	0442-0	PICTURE DEALER (17) (CD) Mrs L Pearce 9 9 5	S Pearce (3) 7
8	0-5600	REGAL PARADE (17) (D) J Bradley 10 9 4	P Prince (5) 8
9	23522-	RENE MATHIS (GER) (245) (D) R Fahey 4 9 3	D Nolan 5
10	-56520	HADAJ (7) (CD) Mrs R Carr 5 8 12	J P Sullivan 6
11	600-06	DOMINATE (26) (D) (BF) R Hannan 4 8 10	P Dobbs 2
12	3120-0	TANSEEB (28) (D) M Johnston 3 8 6	P Hanagan 3
13	040-24	PETERKIN (IRE) (14) M Johnston 3 8 5	L Jones 11

BETTING: 9-2 Dont Bother Me, 5-1 Rene Mathis, Peterkin, 8-1 Goldream, 10-1 Regal Parade, Hoodna, 12-1 Tanseeb, Hadaj, 14-1 others.

3.35

JOHN SUNLEY MEMORIAL LEVY BOARD HANDICAP (CLASS 2). £50,000 added 4YO PLUS 1m 4f Penalty Value £32,345.

1	5300-6	HAVANA BEAT (IRE) (28) A Balding 4 9 10	M Dwyer 7
2	5510-0	LAAHAAG (17) (D) J Gosden 5 9 7	P Hanagan 8
3	01062-	DASHING STAR (280) (D) D Elsworth 4 9 7	D O'Neill 14
4	033-02	DUKE OF CLARENCE (IRE) (15) R Fahey 5 9 7	D Nolan 10
5	121-5	RYE HOUSE (IRE) (17) (D) (BF) Sir M Stoute 5 9 6	R L Moore 5
6	5340-4	JATYABAN (IRE) (22) C Brittain 4 9 4	P Dobbs 12
7	46004-	MACBETH (IRE) (J22) (D) M Appleby 5 9 3	A Rawlinson (7) 9
8	1/1-01	MIGHTY YAR (IRE) (27) (D) Lady Cecil 4 9 2	James Doyle 7
9	221-00	DE RIGUEUR (14) (D) M Botti 6 9 1	A Atzeni 3
10	/1112-	PLUTOCRACY (IRE) (259) (D) (BF) D Lanigan 4 9 0	T Durcan 6
11	2500-0	RAY WARD (IRE) (27) D M Simcock 4 8 13	P Cosgrave 1
12	1-2416	FLEMISH SCHOOL (16) (D) (BF) D Elsworth 4 8 12	W Carson 4
13	015-0	ROMEO MONTAGUE (34) (D) E Dunlop 6 8 11	P Aspell 2
14	611452	MODERNISM (R2) (D) D M Simcock 5 8 10	R Kingscote 11

BETTING: 9-2 Rye House, 5-1 Mighty Yar, 11-2 Duke Of Clarence, 7-1 Modernism, 8-1 Plutocracy, 10-1 Dashing Star, 12-1 Flemish School, Lahaag, 16-1 others.

4.05

LADBROKES CHARITABLE TRUST MAIDEN FILLIES' STAKES (CLASS 5). £6,000 added 3YO only 7f Penalty Value £3,881.

2		BELLE D'OR (USA) J Gosden 9 0	R Havlin 3
2	0	CAMPIONDE (IRE) (25) W Knight 9 0	A Atzeni 13
3		FREE REIN R Beckett 9 0	R Kingscote 12
4	0	GODDESS OF GLOOM (P) Chapple-Hyam 9 0	M Dwyer 1
5		REMY N Littleton 9 0	J-P Gulliamant 8
6		ROLY TRICKS O Stevens 9 0	H Bentley 7
7		SENSIBLE WAY (USA) R Hannan 9 0	P Dobbs 2
8		SOLAR MOON (22) C Appleby 9 0	A Aljethi 15
9	00	SWELLBIND (337) C Appleby 9 0	James Doyle 14
10	60	SWIFT CAMPAIGN (IRE) J Gosden 9 0	T Durcan 4
11	00	SWISS LAIT (24) D Elsworth 9 0	D O'Neill 6
12	60	TOUHAENDTHROLD (11) W Hagas 9 0	L Jones 5
13		VENTUROUS SPIRIT (IRE) J Gosden 9 0	N Mackay 11
14	3-	WATER QUEEN (253) W Hagas 9 0	R L Moore 9
15	63	ZAAWIA (IRE) (36) F Dunlop 9 0	P Hanagan 10

BETTING: 9-4 Water Queen, 5-1 Zawia, 6-1 Spellbind, 13-2 Belle Dor, 10-1 Venturous Spirit, Sensible Way, 12-1 Swift Campaign, 14-1 Solar Moon, 20-1 others.

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Non-league Football



DOUBLE WINNERS: Wildern, pictured, have put the disappointment of their Hampshire Schools Under-15 Cup final defeat by Salesian College behind them by clinching a City of Southampton Schools FA Year 10 League and Cup double. Sam Woodward scored four times as Wildern shrugged off the effect of falling behind to Bitterne Park to storm into a 4-1 lead before finishing 5-3 winners. Matt Brewer scored Wildern's other goal.



Remembering a local legend

LOCAL soccer is preparing to say its farewells to Dennis Probee, a past stalwart of Royal Navy soccer and a football visionary in Hampshire and Sussex, who died recently, aged 89 years, writes Mike Vimpany.

A true gentleman in every sense, a wonderful coach and tactician, Dennis, pictured, formed the Portsmouth Royal Navy football club in 1962 with the intention of bridging the gap between the United Services midweek league and the full RN representative side.

Dennis, a wing-half for Fareham Town and later Portchester in his playing days, spent all his working life in the Royal Navy, initially as a submariner instructor at HMS Dolphin and towards the end of his Service career with the Ministry of Defence in Bath.

He later moved into Sussex soccer where he became manager and a highly respected coach to his beloved Bognor Regis Town team. He was regarded by many as a pivotal figure in the club's successes in the 1980s, being mentor to long serving manager Jack Pearce and, more recently, current boss Darin Kirkpatrick.

Despite his advancing years, he seldom missed a Bognor Regis Town home match and frequently drove from his Fareham home to Nyewood Lane to not only watch games, but also debrief the Rocks management on tactics!

Impeccably dressed, he was always a delight to chat to in the Bognor board room, mainly on soccer, but also cricket, the other game he loved and played as a wicketkeeper for Portchester.

Portchester Crematorium will be packed at noon on Thursday as local soccer says its goodbye to a very special gentleman of the game.



James is the new king of the Castle



NEW BOSS: Winchester Castle manager James Castle.

WINCHESTER Castle have unveiled James Banks as their new first-team manager.

The former AFC Stoneham, Otterbourne and Stockbridge boss will be assisted by Stewart Beck – younger brother of new Alresford Town co-manager, Martin – and experienced coach Terry Chapman.

The trio look forward to welcoming back last season's squad that finished fourth in the Hampshire Premier Division and, with a few additions, are hopeful of delivering some silverware.

Together with Chapman, Banks captured the 2012 Southampton Senior Cup with AFC Stoneham at St Mary's and successfully retained the Hampshire Premier League Cup.

Beck was part of that success on the playing field, scoring the winning goal in the Southampton Senior Cup final as Stoneham overcame Bush Hill 2-1.

Beck, 30, is relatively new to management with his only real experience coming in a spell as assistant at Otterbourne last season.

Wendy Gee

wendy.gee@dailyecho.co.uk

NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

However, with the Castle hierarchy wishing to fund his coaching badges, he jumped at the chance to further his career in local football.

The incoming management team are grateful that club chairman Alan Roberts, director of football Andy Thompson and club stalwart Mike Crowfoot have given them a chance to prove themselves once again.

In Banks, Castle are confident they have a manager who can push the club on with his "infectious and renowned drive and determination" and, with Chapman, they have a vastly experienced coach who has enjoyed spells with Winchester City and Alresford Town.

Club chairman Roberts said: "Both James and Terry have been on our radar for some time. They epitomise the direction the club must take to succeed."

"Their passion, drive and commitment have been evident from

our first meeting some weeks ago.

"Add to this their experience, proven track record and professionalism and we could not be more delighted with the appointments."

"The addition of Stewart Beck is an added bonus. It fits with our strategy of succession planning, as we see this as a long-term appointment."

Castle's combination side is also under new management with Robbie Shearman stepping up to the helm.

The team is hoping to go one better for the 2014/15 season after finishing runners-up in both the Hampshire Combination League and the North Hants Intermediate Cup.

Roberts noted: "I have worked with Robbie for many years and there is no better motivator of players. He is ideal for the difficult role of reserve team manager as he is able to use his man-management skills to get the maximum from an ever changing team."

The club begin pre-season training at their home ground of Chilcomb on Thursday, June 26 (6.30pm).

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